

St. John's Church

SANDWICH  
WINDSOR - ONTARIO

---

1802 - 1952

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A GOODLY HERITAGE





To Mr. Justice Wells  
on the occasion of his  
visit to St. John's

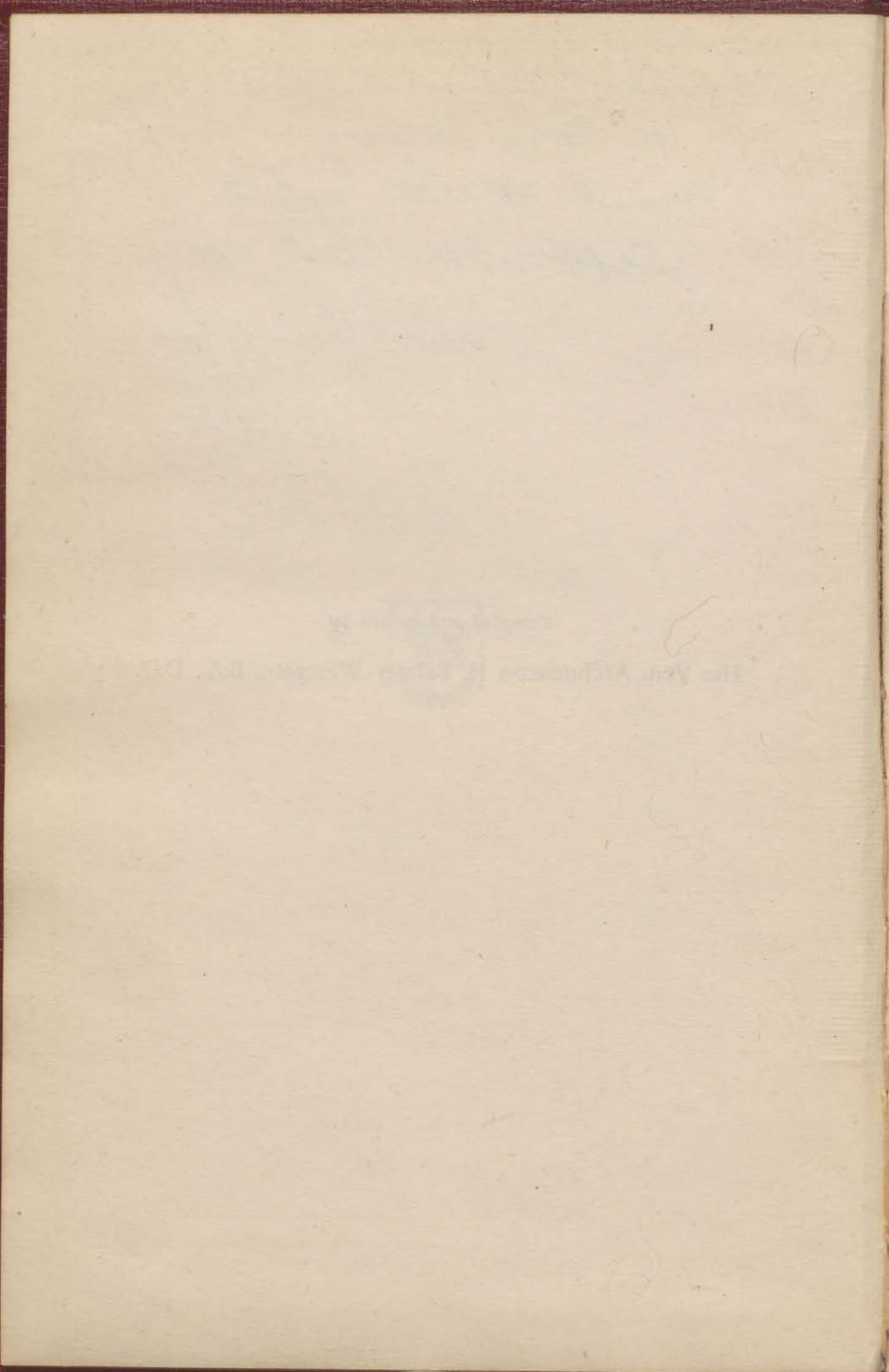
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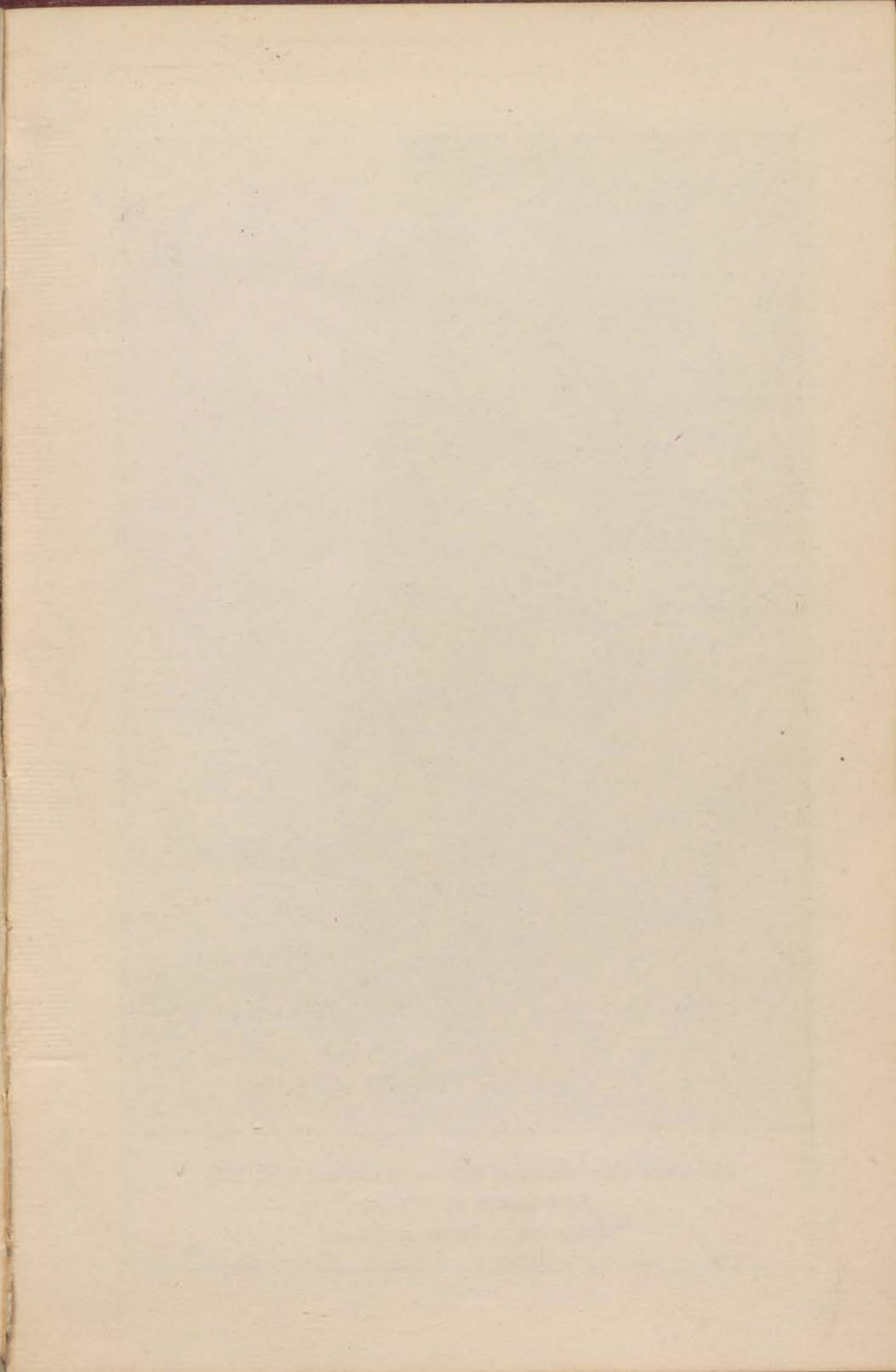
Arthur G. Fourn  
Rector

Compiled and written by

The Ven. Archdeacon H. Palmer Westgate, B.A., D.D.









The Venerable Harrison Palmer Westgate, B.A., D.D.  
 Archdeacon of Windsor,  
 (Deaneries of Essex and Kent)





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The Beginnings of the Anglican Church  
in the Western District

*A Goodly Heritage*

Compiled and written by

The Ven. Archdeacon H. Palmer Westgate, B.A., D.D.

Second Edition

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## INTRODUCTION

MY FIRST impression of the necessity of writing the history of St. John's Church and the important part played in the life of the Church by its early leaders came to me in 1924. At the 50th anniversary of the opening of the present nave and chancel of St. John's on June 23, 1923, the Very Rev. Warren L. Rogers, dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit, (later Bishop of Ohio) was the special preacher. He extended an invitation to Mrs. Westgate and myself to be the guests of the Cathedral for the week's celebration of its centenary in 1924. The Dean also added that the Bishop of Michigan would like me to speak during the celebration at some opportune time on the life of Richard Pollard, the founder of St. John's and also of the Cathedral. Thus began my research for the life story of Richard Pollard. On International Night at the banquet at the Statler Hotel with over 1200 present the late Canon H. J. Cody was the Canadian speaker and in a 10 minute extemporaneous address I spoke about Richard Pollard. The next day Bishop Page asked me if I would kindly put into writing what I had said at the Banquet, for their archives.

Again at the dedication of the memorial tablet over the grave of Richard Pollard in St. John's Churchyard June 3, 1943, by Bishops Seager of Huron and Creighton of Michigan, who spoke at the Church service, it was my lot to deliver the address on the life of Richard Pollard at the reception held in the Parish Hall afterwards. When leaving Bishop Seager said to me, "Westgate, have printed what you have told us tonight that it may not be lost to the Church. It is valuable history."

So this 150th anniversary year seemed to be an opportune time to gather together in book form some of the most interesting and outstanding material now on hand with the sincere hope that the reading of the same may increase the missionary interest in the Church, and inspire men and women to devote their lives to the cause of Christ as Rev. Richard Pollard did, and to recognize



that mighty oaks from acorns grow. In the county of Essex, there are today 27 churches and 24 active clergy; in Kent, 21 churches and 10 active clergy. Essex and Kent embrace the Canadian field ministered to by the Reverend Richard Pollard.

I have made no attempt to include in this small volume the work of other Christian bodies in this community. None, except the Roman Church had any permanent organization as early as the Anglican. Inasmuch as the earthly lives of my own three sons were cut off in their youth and no heir is left to take up the torch when I lay it down, I dedicate this book to their memory.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

FOR HELP in supplying and gathering the material together in this book, I gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Mr. George MacDonald who has supplied me with an unlimited amount of authoritative information and cuts; Reverend Dr. Millman of Huron College; Dr. N. Morrison, Fred Neal's book, "Sandwich Past and Present"; Judge Wood's "Centenary of St. John's" and "Harrison Hall"; History of St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit; Dr. Young's Life of Richard Pollard; copies of correspondence of Richard Pollard with S. P. G. and of the meetings of the Society; Miss Gertrude Tate, Toronto; Canon R. S. W. Howard's article on the Church in Chatham; Dr. Quaife of Burton Historical Library in Detroit; F. Coyne Hamil's "The Valley of the Lower Thames"; Mrs. Westgate and my daughter, Mary Margaret, for assistance in research work and reading of manuscripts.

### EXPLANATIONS OF DISTRICTS

From "The Valley of the Lower Thames" by Hamil  
Page 16: *District of Hesse*—From Long Point on Lake Erie to Detroit. (Land Board met June 19, 1789.)

*Mackinaw*—Country south to Ohio and westward to Mississippi.



Page 20: July 16, 1792 Governor Simcoe divided Upper Canada into 19 counties.

*Essex County* then included the land south of the Thames as far as the carrying place (Communication Road) between Points Aux Pins (Rondeau) and the site of Chatham. The territory east of this in the present county of Kent was made part of the short-lived county of Suffolk.

*Kent County* then consisted of the land north of the Thames River not included in other counties or belonging to the Indians, as well as Detroit which was connected to the rest of the county by a four-mile strip along the south shore of Lake St. Clair. In October the districts were re-named and the District of Hesse became the Western District.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

THE EARLY history of Sandwich is linked with the British occupation of Canada which began when the British under General Wolfe defeated the French at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759 and Canada became a British possession. Detroit, however, did not surrender until 1760. By the Quebec Act of 1774, all British possessions west of New York, north of Ohio and east of the Mississippi were incorporated in the old Province of Quebec with the western part of the territory divided into four districts; namely, Kingston, York, Niagara and Detroit. In 1788 the British Government paid to the Chiefs of the Wyandottes or Huron Indians, the Chippawa and the Ottawa, the purchase price demanded by the joint tribes, for the peaceable possession of a piece of ground one mile square the centre of which was the original town of Sandwich. Part of the newly acquired block of land was immediately surveyed, and plotted into one acre lots for settlement and the future county town was given the name of Sandwich. It was incorporated January 1, 1858.



By the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, 1783, the southern boundary of Canada was to be the middle of the Great Lakes as far west as the Lake of the Woods, etc. However, Great Britain did not give up the territory to the north and west of the Detroit River, contending it was Indian territory and not to be included with the thirteen revolting states. By the terms of the Jay Treaty, 1794, implemented by the Exodus Act, 1796, Britain yielded this territory to the United States and removed the government offices from Detroit to Sandwich, July 11, 1796. The great majority of those of British stock, who wished to remain loyal to the Crown, moved at the same time and took up residence on the south side of the river (at this point the Detroit River flows westward). Thus was established the first large settlement of English-speaking people on what is now the Canadian side of the Detroit River. According to Judge Woods' book "Harrison Hall", it was decreed that if Sandwich did not prove a suitable location the offices were to be moved to Bois Blanc Island after having given three months' notice of such removal.

Those who held church services on this frontier prior to 1796, according to Professor Young, were: (1) Rev. Philip Toosey of Quebec, who visited here in 1786 and who on his return, asked to be appointed missionary to Detroit. His plea, however, was not granted; (2) Rev. George Mitchell a few years later, who, after remaining eighteen months, returned to Quebec without establishing anything of a permanent nature by way of regular services.

The following letters copied from the archives at Ottawa throw some light on the moral life of the community in 1798 and the anxiety of Peter Russell, administrator of the Province in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor.



## PETER RUSSELL TO THE BISHOP OF QUEBEC

Upper Canada York  
22nd February, 1798

"Yet it is at the same time my wish that no time should be lost in placing a discreet good Clergyman at Sandwich and giving him a Church there; because its Vicinage to a Military Frontier of the United States whose Soldiers are daily deserting to this Side exposes it to a most dangerous Contagion; which if not early opposed by the improved Morals of its Inhabitants may spread wide and be ultimately productive of every Evil that can be apprehended from a total disregard to all the Duties we owe to God and Man. The Necessity of such an antidote is moreover strongly impressed on my mind by a letter which I have just received from the Chairman of the Bench for the Western District, where he implores my immediate assistance towards rebuilding their Jail which has been lately burnt—as they have no proper place to confine the Multitudes of American Deserters who are daily committed by the Magistrates for every Crime that can blacken a New Year Kalendar."

Your Lordships most obedient and  
most Humble Servant

PETER RUSSELL.

The Russell Papers—Cruikshank—Vol. 2; Page 97

## THE BISHOP OF QUEBEC TO PETER RUSSELL

Quebec 12th June, 1798

"I see, and feel very strongly, Sir, the force of your reasoning relative to the expediency of placing, as soon as possible, a discreet good Clergyman at Sandwich. The manifold evils which immediately flow in, wherever there is a total suspension of Religious and Moral instruction, acquire, undoubtedly great additional activity from the local circumstances mentioned by you; but they are of

themselves and in all cases, of a nature so malignant as to produce a perversion in principle, and a profligacy in practice utterly inconsistent with the duties of good men, and of good subjects—They are evils no less of political than of moral consideration, and, feeling them to be such, I can not but deeply regret the long delays that have already taken place, and the ground that has perhaps irrevocably been lost.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
with sincere respect and esteem,  
Yr faithful & obedt servant

J. Q."

The Russell Paper—Vol. 2; Page 178

## **PETER RUSSELL TO THE DUKE OF PORTLAND**

Upper Canada  
York 4th July, 1798

"The Western District being the only one which has reported to me its appointment of Wardens to take charge of the Monies to be collected & appropriated for the building a Church therein, I have as yet drawn on the Lords of the Treasury towards this Service for only two Hundred Pounds in favor of the Wardens of Sandwich, to enable them to build an Episcopal Church in that Town."

I have the Honor to be &c.

PETER RUSSELL.

The Russell Papers—Cruikshank Vol. 2, Page 200

## **LETTER FROM CHARLES LONG TO PETER RUSSELL**

"Sir:

The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury having had under their consideration your letter dated Canada 22nd June last, advising of your having drawn a Bill on this Board for the sum of £200 towards building



an Episcopal Church in the Town of Sandwich:—I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you they have directed Mr. Charles Goddard the late Agent for the Province to pay the said Bill out of the sum of One Thousand Pounds impressed into his hands, and voted by Parliament for the building of Churches in that Province; and I am to desire you will draw for the remaining sums upon Mr. Goddard and not upon their Lordships.

I am,

CHARLES LONG.

Treasury Chambers  
18th Dec. 1798

Peter Russell Esq. etc. etc.  
Upper Canada, York."

(State Papers, Upper Canada, 1798)

The Russell Papers, (Cruikshank) Vol. 3, Page 39.

## CHAPTER 1

### RICHARD POLLARD AND THE BEGINNINGS

**A**MONGST the officials who moved from Detroit to Sandwich was one, Richard Pollard. The records of his life prior to 1796 are rather sketchy, but certain facts are available. He was born in England in 1752 and came to the New England States sometime before 1776 in which year we learn, "He got aboard a King's ship and escaped from the revolting colonies." In 1778 he is listed as a juror at a trial in Montreal of a man charged with theft which took place in Detroit. In 1782 we read of his being in Mackinaw and we also find him listed as an ensign in the 8th Reg't at Detroit. (M.P. Vol. XIII-93-97); 1784 in Detroit; 1788 a merchant trading with the Indians; (Vol. XI-582); 1789 appointed the first postmaster of Detroit; 1792 sworn in as sheriff of the Western District at Kingston; 1793 appointed Registrar of Essex and Kent; 1794 appointed Registrar of Surrogate Court; 1796 the Government Offices moved to Sandwich from Detroit; 1800 Sheriff of



Essex, Kent and such parts of Upper Canada which were not included in any other district; and in 1801 made Judge of the Surrogate Court.

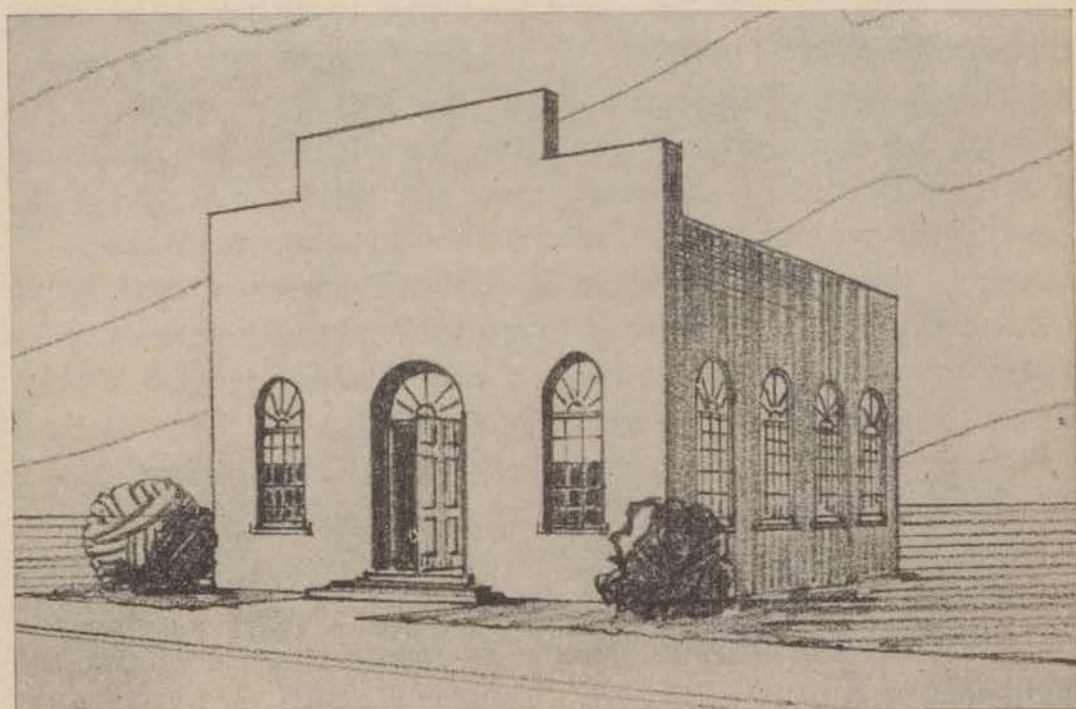
As there was no ordained clergyman in Sandwich, it is said that Sheriff Pollard gathered the people together every Sunday in the building which served for government offices, and read the Church of England service and printed sermons. He undoubtedly felt that no community could progress without the services of an ordained man and offered himself to the Right Rev. Jacob Mountain, first Bishop of Quebec, who, despairing of getting clergy from England for his vast diocese, and having no training college for young men in Canada, was seeking mature men of liberal education and good report, for the work of the ministry. Sheriff Pollard was recommended by the Lieutenant Governor and the Chief Justice of Upper Canada. Of him Bishop Mountain said: "He had very satisfactory testimonials from the most respected people there, to which were added many testimonies of esteem and regard from persons of the first consideration."

The records of Bishop Mountain in Quebec show that he was ordained deacon, 20th of March, 1802, and priest, 2nd of June, 1804, and appointed missionary to the Western District. At the time of his ordination to the diaconate he was 50 years of age.

The first entry in St. John's parish register is of a baptism by him on 24th of May, 1802. From further entries we learn that he also made a trip to Quebec in 1803, as well as in 1804, when he was ordained priest. From a letter to John Askin, Esq., 6th of August, 1806, he contends that these three trips to Quebec together with a cost of 200 pounds, which it cost him "to get quit of the sheriff's office" and other "tolls" left him heavily in debt, but if given time would pay all. His salary was 150 pounds sterling, 50 pounds coming from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (S.P.G.), and 100 pounds from the Imperial Government.



Sandwich was his headquarters and from here he ministered to congregations at Fort Malden (now included in Amherstburg) being chaplain to the militia stationed there, a settlement on Lake Erie (now Colchester) and another settlement on the Thames (now Chatham). He also held services in the Indian Council House in Gladwin Park in Detroit in 1805, and more or less regularly until 1821, from which St. Paul's Cathedral and the Diocese of Michigan trace their origin. An itinerary of his vast parish involved a journey of at least 240 miles. A record of his ministry in Amherstburg, Colchester and Chatham will appear in articles on these respective parishes.



The first St. John's Church, 1803.

The earliest account to be found in the records of St. John's of a church building was in 1806, when a wedding was recorded as held in the parish church, 21st of September, 1806. Tradition in the community favours 1803 as the date of the first church. In an account with the store of Robt. Gowie, 1807, listed in Sterling, Halifax, and New York currency are a number of articles suitable for



furnishings for the church. In the minutes of a vestry meeting held 23rd of March, 1807, two resolutions are recorded dealing with pew rents and changes from 1806.

In Mr. Pollard's earlier correspondence (1804) he reports to the S.P.G. that the population of Sandwich "the county town", was 1140, of whom 900 were Roman Catholics and 240, Church of England "without one Protestant dissenter". This was modified later by a report that 50 Scotch Dissenters were to be deducted from the 240. In the surrounding country, there were 1200 or 1400 who would become members of the church if missionaries were sent to them.

His ministry in Sandwich seems to have been continuous from 1802 to 1824, except for two periods: (1) when he resided in Amherstburg for a short time, having received the appointment of acting chaplain to the garrison there, with lodging money and an officer's rations; (2) during the war of 1812-14, when he was taken prisoner with General Proctor at the Battle of Moraviantown and later released and was allowed to go to York, where he ministered for a time, also at Barton and Ancaster, and last at Ernestown (now Bath) and Fredericksburg. Rev. Canon McTear, one time rector of Bath, verified his signatures. A memorandum in Vol. 2 of the Parish Register reads: "The Rev. Richard Pollard, rector of Sandwich, was absent from that place from February, 1814, to June, 1815, on account of the war and was appointed and resided at Ernestown, on the Bay of Quinte, during that period." There is no entry in the register from January 6th, 1814, to June 2nd, 1815. In 1816 Mr. Pollard received a gratuity of 100 pounds in consideration of losses suffered from the enemy.

During the war in September, 1813, the Church was burned to the ground, and in some minds the origin of the fire is still a mystery. F. Neal states in his book: "Gen. Harrison stabled the Kentucky horse in the church and when driven out burned the church behind them." The



government gave the church an acre of ground on the opposite side of the street as a compensation for the loss. On this acre now stands the parish hall and rectory. Efforts to rebuild the church were not successful until about 1819, when a building 36 x 36 was erected with brick brought on scows from Buffalo. The cost of the building was \$2,000, of which the congregation subscribed \$1,100, a grant from the S.P.G. of 50 pounds—a debt of \$400 remained. Apparently Mr. Pollard paid considerable of his salary to the assistance of the churches in building. In Sandwich he contributed \$157 in addition to his subscription in order to pay the workmen. The church was opened 11th of June, 1820, but without belfry, pulpit, etc. This church was consecrated 26th of September, 1838. Simultaneously with the building of the church in Sandwich was the building of a brick church in Amherstburg, a stone church in Colchester, and a frame church at Chatham.

In many of his letters to the S.P.G. he appeals for men to minister to the population in this fine extensive country, and money to build churches and schools. He deploras the fact that many marriages are performed by magistrates because the law allows the same when people are 18 miles from one of the regular clergy. He also deploras the fact that for want of regular clergy, the Methodists are gaining ground by means of most illiterate teachers. "He travelled much, visiting much, distributing sermons, explaining the orthodox faith of our Church on faith and works, on Divine grace, etc., calling the families together in an evening, endeavouring to establish our holy faith, stript of the fascinating garb of superstition and enthusiasm."

While Mr. Pollard apparently got rid of the sheriff's office in 1802, he retained the office of registrar until 18th of November, 1808, when he appointed William Hands, deputy registrar of the counties of Kent, Essex, and Suffolk. He passed to his reward 6th of November, 1824, at



the age of 72 years and was buried under the east window of the church, which he had succeeded in building but four years before. On page 24 in the financial statement of the Church Wardens occurs the following item: "January 2, 1826, to paid Prevancher for opening the Church floor to deposit the remains of the late Rev'd R. Pollard, 5s.7½d."

Surely among the makers of Canada in this western peninsula of Ontario, no greater name can be found than that of Richard Pollard, soldier, lawyer, sheriff, judge, and above all, a priest of the Church of England, who spared not himself that the Gospel of Jesus Christ might be faithfully preached and the sacraments of the Church duly administered, thus laying a moral and spiritual foundation upon which true national life is built.

By far the most colourful of all the incumbents of St. John's was the first, the Rev. Richard Pollard.

## CHAPTER 2

### POLLARD'S SUCCESSORS

#### Rev. Robert Short 1825-1827

The Rev. Robert Quick Short was born at Bristol, England July 9, 1803. Like Zachaeus, he was short of stature and commonly spoken of as "Little Bobby Short". Judge Woods in his book, "Centenary of St. John's", said, "that one morning the congregation was waiting his appearance and as he didn't come I was sent to tell him. After making some excuse which I forget, he came and relieved the impatient congregation." He was unmarried when he came here but later married Miss Maria Forsyth of Sandwich. After serving in several missions in Lower Canada, he died in 1879 in Montmorency. He was a grandson of the Rev. Robert Short, rector of Three Rivers, 1800-1827.



## Rev. Edward Jukes Boswell 1827-1829



The Reverend Edward Jukes Boswell was born in Hampshire, England, 5th of April, 1799, and was educated in a private school in Buntingford. Coming to Canada, he lived in Cobourg sometime before 1823. He was prepared for Holy Orders in all probability by another clergyman, according to the system customary in those days. He was ordained Deacon on 4th of November, 1827, and was licensed to the cure of souls at Sandwich by the Bishop of Quebec on 21st of November, 1827. In 1829 he was ordained Priest and ministered in Sandwich and the immediate neighbourhood from 1827-1829, when

he was transferred to London as the first missionary stationed in that now Cathedral City, preceeding the Rev. Benjamin Cronyn, later the first Bishop of Huron on its organization as a diocese in 1857. From 1831-1833 he held services also at St. Thomas. In 1833 he was in Montreal in Charge of the garrison and of the congregation of Lachine. From 1834-1844 he was at Carleton Place; from 1847-1860 at Williamsburg (now Morrisburg). The degree of D.C.L. was conferred upon him by Trinity College in 1857. In 1862 he became the rector at Prescott and from 1862-1868 was examining chaplain to the Bishop of Ontario. He died in August, 1879, at Kingston.

### **Rev. Wm. Johnson 1829-1840**

Reverend William Johnson was born and educated in Ireland. However, he came from the West Indies to Amherstburg to teach in the Grammar School and later taught in the Grammar School in Sandwich in 1828. After a time he was ordained to the ministry in Montreal. He was a great classical scholar and a genial Irish gentleman. Rev. Wm. Johnson had a family of four or five children, one of whom was Canon Johnson, Windsor. He continued as rector until his death on 5th of September, 1840 at the age of 46 years and was buried by the Rt. Rev. Samuel McCoskey, Bishop of Michigan. In addition to the tablet to himself, there are two, to daughters of his in St. John's Church.

It was during his incumbency in August 1833, that Colonel John Prince came to Sandwich. As there was no pew available for him and his family, arrangements were made whereby he was permitted to build his own, and pay for it by allowances on his pew rent. This was the first square pew put in the Church and was placed under the pulpit. The family was most exemplary in its attendance at Church and their influence was felt far and wide. Col. Prince was warden from 1834-1836, when he became

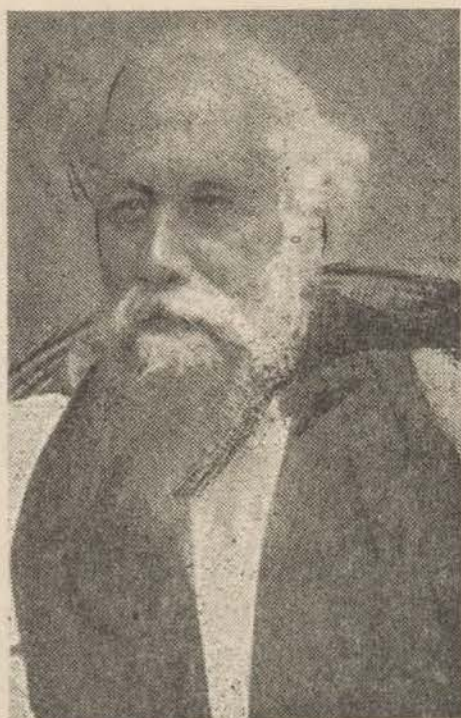


the member of Parliament. "A look at the parish register shows at once the hand of the lawyer in the regular entry of the vestry meetings, the resolutions and accounts passed, etc. as well as the skill of the accomplished conveyancer as seen in the fine engrossing in old English characters on the first page." (F. Neal). Col. Alan C. Prince of Windsor is a great-grandson and presented St. John's with the quarter cut oak reredos in 1943 in memory of his mother and aunt.

The Patriots Rebellion of 1837-1838, so called, was during Mr. Johnson's ministry and the murder of Dr. James John Hume by the patriots was among the tragic events of his ministry.

At a meeting in Sandwich in 1838, held in the interests of the British and Foreign Bible Society by its agent, James Thomson, an Anglican clergyman and the Wesleyan minister were on the platform with the speaker. Some one in the audience referred to the speaker as a Yankee stroller, the Wesleyan minister as a fellow stroller and the Anglican clergyman was scolded for having permitted such adventurers to enter the town and get a hearing." (F. Landon—"Western Ontario", page 185). (Rev. Wm. Johnson was the Anglican clergyman at that time.) This attitude of some of the audience was typical of the hostile feelings or attitude of many people of Western Ontario towards any person coming from the United States.

## Rev. Thomas Earl Welby 1841-1843



The Reverend Thomas Earl Welby was a Major in the army and had been an officer in the 13th Dragoons in India. He was a man of considerable private means and had a large estate at Brantford where he served in the army in 1837. He belonged to one of the oldest families in England antedating the Norman conquest. With his sense of duty as a soldier and his great regard for his high office as a clergyman of the Church of England, he was soon an active, zealous, popular and loved pastor. A private in the army with feet bruised and swollen by a long march from Hamilton to Brantford, finds himself cared for by the Major, who on his knees bathed and soothed his aching feet. The private was well-known in 1902 as Judge Woods of Chatham, a grandson of Commodore Grant. As his Master, his motto was "I am among you as He that serveth". We are indebted to him for the gift of the rectory and what endowment St. John's has. The property acquired by him on the river front for a residence was left to the Bishop of Toronto for the benefit



of the rector of St. John's and him only. His child's grave in the Churchyard is a special care of the Church.

He was Vice-President of the Western District Literary, Philosophical and Agricultural Club. With the assistance of a godly layman, Major Sparkes, he established a church in the Irish settlement on the Talbot Road, which is now St. Stephen's. He returned to England, and in 1850 was made Archdeacon of Capetown and in 1852, in Lambeth Palace was consecrated Bishop of St. Helena with Episcopal jurisdiction over nearby Islands. He reached a good old age, but was killed by his horses running away in 1900.

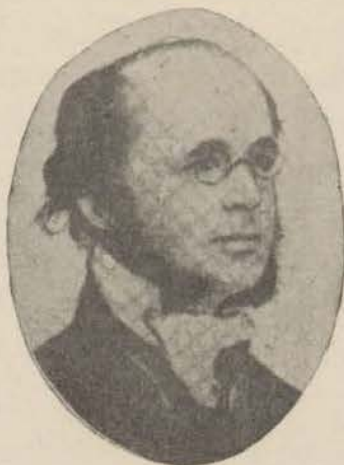
### **Rev. William Ritchie 1843-1852**

With the Rev. Mr. Leitch, Reverend W. Ritchie came to us from the Presbyterian Church having been minister of the Church of Scotland at Newmarket. After being trained at the Diocesan Theological Institute at Cobourg under the Rev. Professor A. N. Bethune, later 2nd Bishop of Toronto, he was ordained deacon on 2nd of July, 1843, and appointed to Sandwich.

We gather Bishop Strachan held Confirmation services in Sandwich, the 4th of August, 1845, and on the 28th of June 1848 held Confirmation services in Sandwich and in the Irish Settlement (now St. Stephen's). In Mr. Ritchie's report for 1844 he gives the extent of his mission as 260 square miles, which includes the townships of Sandwich, Maidstone and Rochester, with a gross population of 4,820, of which 765 are Church of England, the value of the living being £100. During the year he had 41 baptisms, 7 marriages, and 9 burials.

For nine years he ministered to St. John's and then went to a charge in the County of Simcoe.

## Rev. E. H. Dewar 1852-1859



The Reverend E. H. Dewar's ministry marked the building of the present tower of St. John's in 1852 and the beginning of services in "The Village of Windsor". A resolution of the Vestry in 1852 was that "he be permitted to hold services in Windsor in the afternoon providing he held them in St. John's morning and evening". All Saints' is the outgrowth of that beginning. There is a tablet in St. John's to his wife, Amy Dewar. In 1859 he resigned and became rector of Thornhill, which parish he faithfully served until his death in the autumn of 1862. He was the author of a book published in Oxford entitled, "Theology of Modern Germany". As a former Chaplain at Hamburg, he would have first hand information to write such a treatise.



## Rev. John Hurst 1860-1863



The Reverend John Hurst originally came to this country as a missionary of the Colonial and Continental Church Society of England to the fugitive slaves. After three years in St. John's he resigned to devote all his time to All Saints', Windsor. During his ministry a resolution was passed at a vestry meeting asking the Town Council of Windsor to make provision for the burial of its own dead. This marks the beginning of Windsor Grove Cemetery. His work in All Saints' is a story in itself.

## Rev. Francis Gore Elliott 1863-1879



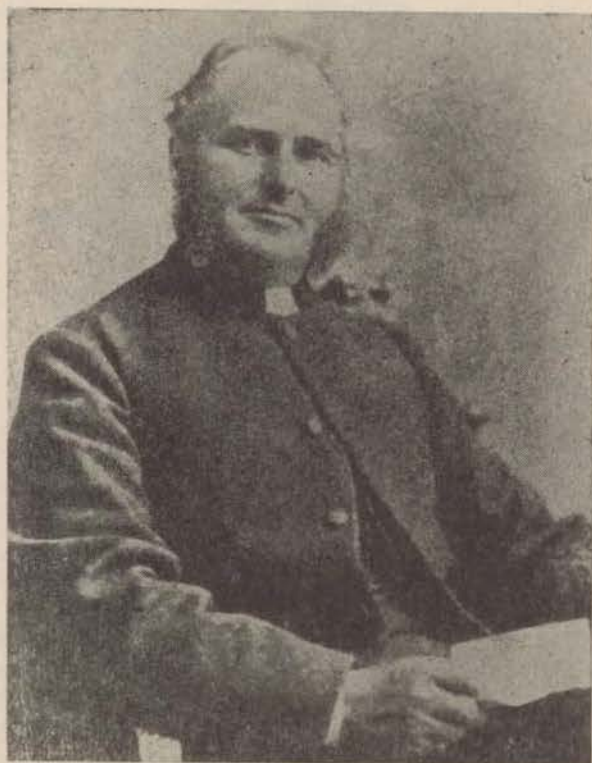
The Reverend Francis Gore Elliott was a native of Essex County being the eldest son of Matthew Elliott of Amherstburg, one of the most prominent men in His Majesty's service in the early days. The record of his baptism is to be found in St. John's register and is as follows:

"Francis Gore, son of Matthew and Sarah Elliott: Born 13th day of January, 1811. Baptized on 20th day of same month and year by R. Pollard, Curate."

In his boyhood he had been a pupil of the Rev. Wm. Johnson and afterwards studied for the ministry in Montreal. He was ordained by Bishop Strachan and ministered for many years at Colchester from which place he came to St. John's. During his ministry in 1872 the original brick church, built in 1819 and 1820 with its Norman type of architecture, was torn down to the foundation, and the present nave built and chancel added in the Gothic style of architecture.

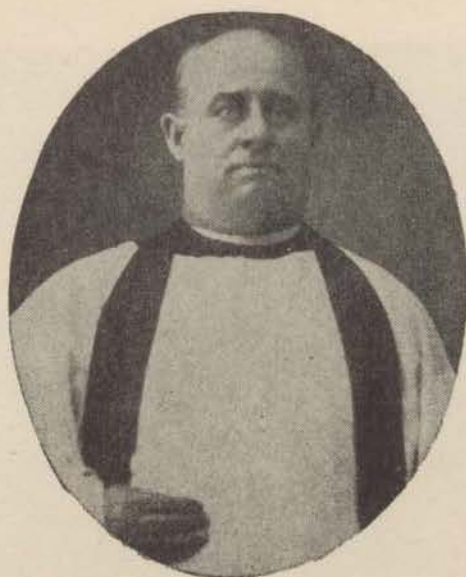


## Rev. Richard W. Johnstone 1879-1887



The Reverend Richard W. Johnstone was born in Ireland in 1835, graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, and was ordained a Deacon in 1859 in London, Ontario, and a priest in 1862 by Bishop Benjamin Cronyn. After serving in various parishes, he became rector of Sandwich in 1879. He was a man of genial disposition and was a splendid classical teacher. The late Col. E. S. Wigle received from him, his elementary work in classics before entering the University of Toronto. Many of the older generation of a few years ago remember him as a first-class cricketer. He died at Fort Gratiot, Michigan, 24th of February, 1906, age 71 years and was buried in the family plot in St. John's Cemetery.

## Rev. Duncan Henry Hind 1887-1916

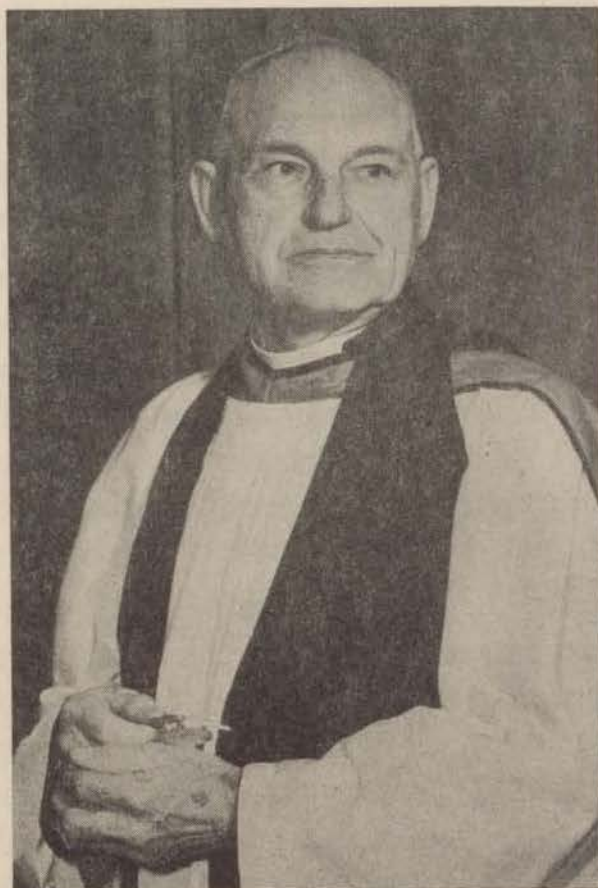


The Reverend D. H. Hind, the second son of Henry Youle and Katherine Hind, was born in Toronto, and educated at King's College, Windsor, Nova Scotia. He spent many years in the North West as an engineer on the C.P.R. survey. After returning to Nova Scotia, he was married to Agnes Marshall in 1876, and was ordained by Bishop Binney in 1879. After serving in Georgetown, Prince Edward Island, he came to the Diocese of Huron in 1882 being incumbent of the parishes of Burford and Chesley before coming to St. John's in 1887. During his ministry up to 1900, as did his predecessors from 1842, he had charge of St. Stephen's Church, and also held services on the Malden Road. The Church House was built in 1906, and in 1912 he was the local representative for the Bishop in selling the rectory property on the Detroit River, and building the present rectory in 1914. He died 28th of January, 1916, at the age of 62 and was buried in St. John's Churchyard. The bronze plaque in the sanctuary was put in to his memory in 1916 by the Ladies' Aid Society. The choir vestry and sanctuary, built in 1919, are a memorial to his life and work.



His family living in Sandwich have always been loyal and active members of the Church. Some of his grandchildren have been not only baptized and confirmed, but also married in St. John's and his great-grandchildren's names are to be found on the present Font Roll.

**The Venerable Archdeacon H. P. Westgate**  
**Rector from May 1, 1916 to the Present**



The present rector of St. John's Church, the Venerable Harrison Palmer Westgate, was born near Watford in Lambton County on 22nd of March, 1878, being the sixth son of the late Jarvis and Mary Jane Westgate, both of whom were born in Ireland. He received his elementary education in a rural school and Watford High School.

H. Palmer Westgate graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, in 1898; however, after four years of farm-life, he entered Huron College, London, and graduated in 1905 being the first man to be ordained by the late Archbishop David Williams. For five years, 1905-10, he was in charge of the Parish of Atwood and Henfryn in Perth Deanery. From 1910-14, he was Curate at Trinity Church, St. Thomas, under the Ven. Archdeacon Arundel C. Hill. From 1908-12, in addition to doing parish work he attended lectures in Western University, and received his B.A. degree in 1912. From October, 1914, until the end of April, 1916, he was rector of the Parish of Shelburne and Primrose in Dufferin County and came to St. John's Church on the first of May, 1916.

He was married in 1912 to Minnie Ethel Kilty, daughter of the late Rev. G. M. and Mrs. Kilty of Clinton.

Archdeacon Westgate was made a Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, in May, 1941, and Archdeacon of Elgin, which included the Deaneries of Essex, Kent and Elgin, in 1946. The University of Western Ontario in May, 1949 conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity (*Honoris Causa*) on him. In 1952, he was named Archdeacon of Windsor with jurisdiction over the Deaneries of Essex and Kent known as the Archdeaconry of Essex.

During his ministry in 1919 the Sanctuary and Choir Vestry were added to the Church and the building completely renovated. An addition to the Church House, 25' x 40', was made in 1938 thus providing excellent accommodation for the teaching and social activities of the Church. In 1919 a Perpetual Care Fund was set up for the Cemetery and a few years later the Memorial Endowment Fund was instituted. In 1949 and 1950 he supervised the building of St. Andrew's Memorial Church, LaSalle, and completed the organization of the parish.

Since 1941 he has been annually elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Diocese and for many years was Essex Deanery representative on the Diocesan



Board of Religious Education. He is also a member of the Huron College Council being one of the four clergy representing the original council and is Honorary President of the Essex Deanery Branch of the Brotherhood of Anglican Laymen.

## Foot-notes

1. Dr. Westgate has always taken an active part in community projects. From their inception he has been a member of the Executives of the Windsor Council of Churches, Windsor Branch of the United Nation's Organization, the Optimist Club. He was the first master of Border Cities Lodge No. 554, A.F. and A.M. in 1919 and its chaplain since 1921. In 1951 he received a fifty year jewel from Egremont Lodge 207, I.O.O.F., Kerwood and in 1952 Padre Westgate was honoured with the "Award of Merit" from Ambassador Branch No. 143 of Canadian Legion.

2. Watford was described by the late Canon H. J. Cody as "that fruitful, ecclesiastical mother of famous servants of the church." It is of interest to know that in addition to the Rev. T. B. R. Westgate, D.D., to whom Canon Cody had specific reference at the time, there are Rev. Canon Roger S. W. Howard, of Montreal; the Rev. Prof. O. W. Howard, of Montreal; Rev. D. B. Rogers, D.C.L., Educational Secretary of the G.B.R.E.; the Rev. John Gibson, the Rev. Alvin J. Shirley, missionaries in the West; the Rev. Robert Herbert, as well as many of more recent years who were born in or near Watford and received their early education in Watford Public and High Schools.

## CHAPTER 3

### CHURCH BUILDINGS

#### The Church

THE BUILDING of the first church on the present site is clouded with mystery. The late Alexander McKee contended that there was a church building in 1803. The writer has before him an account for pew rents in 1804 and 1805 of James Allan £1, 10s; George Meldrum £1, 6s; and William Park £1, 6s. In the Parish records an account is given of a wedding in 1806: "A.D. 1806, September 21, Willim Jackson, Corporal in the First Regiment, and Mary Bateman, widow, both of this parish, the banns being duly published, were married in the Parish Church, Sandwich, by me, Richard Pollard, Curate." In the Vestry minutes of a meeting held on March 23, 1807, a number of references are made in regard to the pew rents of the Church.

In September, 1813, the Church was destroyed by fire. Fred Neal in his "History of Sandwich, Past and Present," states that it was set on fire by the Americans when they were driven out of the town during the war of 1812-14, the Church having been used by the American Army under General Harrison to stable the Kentucky Horse."

From 1813 until 1819, Church services were held in a building on the opposite corner to the one on which the church was situated, and which was referred to as a College. Undoubtedly this refers to the Grammar School built in 1807. In his correspondence, Mr. Pollard refers to "the Center room in the College as being fitted up for Divine service and a School House. A teacher capable of instructing in Latin and Greek is lately arrived. He has 42 scholars."



St. John's Church, 1840.

In 1819, the efforts to erect a new building were well under-way. Brick was brought from Buffalo on scows for the construction of this building. It was constructed con-



temporaneously with Christ Church, Amherstburg, and St. Paul's Church, Chatham. The church in Amherstburg was completed and opened first on the 12th of December, 1819. Then, the church in Sandwich was opened on the 11th of June, 1820, but without a belfry and pulpit. This church was 36' x 36'.

In the minutes of the S.P.G., it is related that the people subscribed \$1100.00; that it cost \$2000.00, and had a debt of \$400.00 standing against it. The Rector, Richard Pollard, in addition to contributing \$157.00 towards the building fund, paid \$40.00 for a stove "without which the church would have been useless during the winter". In the financial statements of 1833, we have reference made to the strengthening of the belfry in order to hold the bell. During the ministry of the Rev. T. E. Welby in 1843 an addition of 12' was made to the building which is apparent from the drawings of Prof. Young thus making the dimensions 48' x 36'. In the Church Warden's statement for the year 1843 and 1844 the following items appear:

"1844—January 1—Amount of con-	
tracts for the addition to Church.	£94, 10s, 9d
Amount paid by the Rev. T. E. Welby	£72, 13s, 9d

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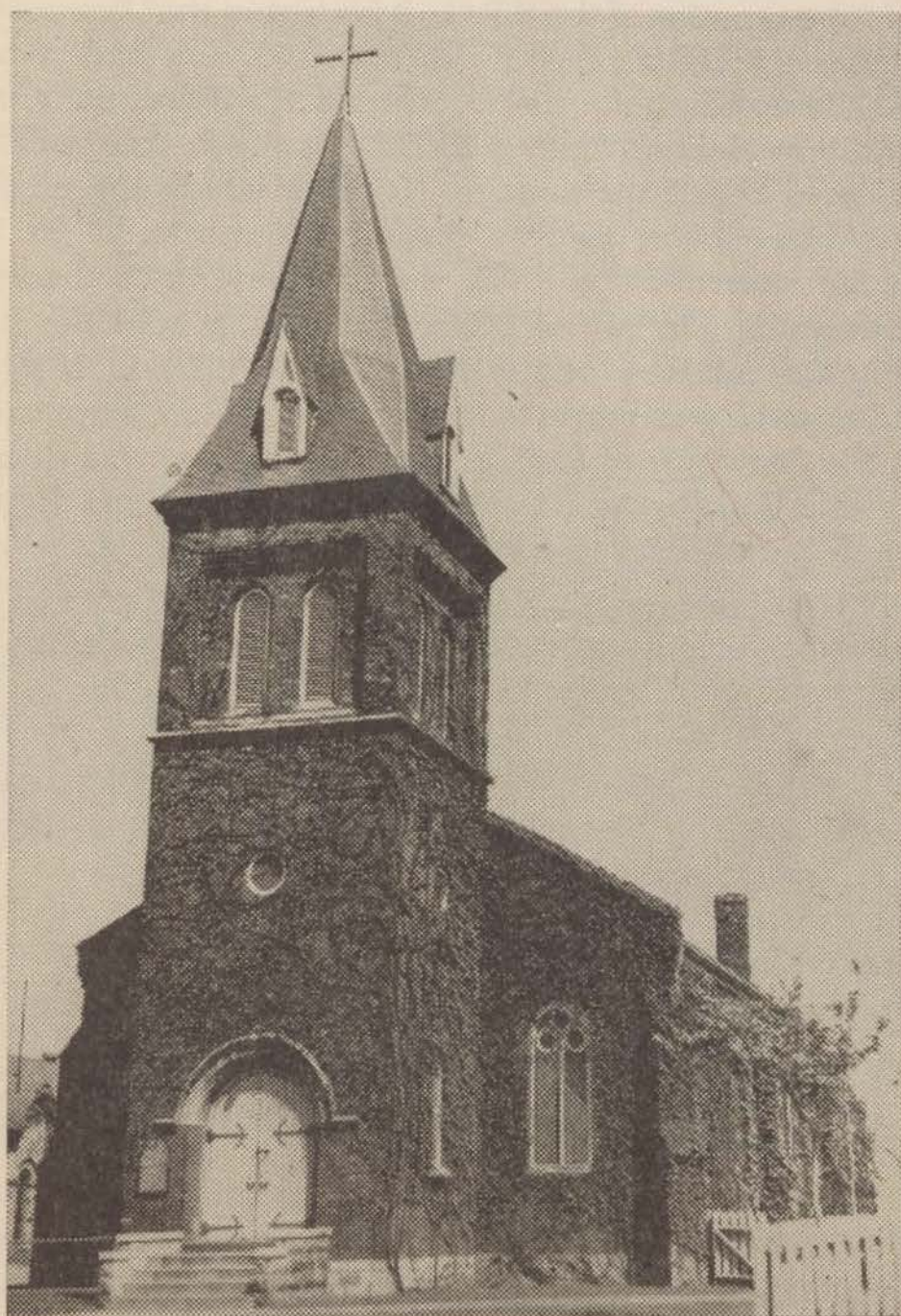
21.17"

Balance paid by Church Wardens agreeable to resolution of Vestry. Paid Henry Teakle for altering Pews and Communion Rail, etc. 2-12-6. The tower was built in 1852 during the ministry of the Rev. E. H. Dewar.

In 1871, it was decided by the congregation to enlarge the Church; and consequently, a contract was let to Thomas and George Gray to tear down the old building to the foundation and rebuild with a Gothic type of architecture and add a Chancel. Of the original structure, the foundation of stone, and the tower remain to this day. A visitor will notice that the windows and entrance door in the tower are of the old Norman type, whereas those in the Church and Chancel are Gothic. The corner-stone



was laid by the Most Worshipful Justice William Mercer Wilson of the Masonic Order assisted by the officers and members of Great Western Lodge, No. 47. That Church was officially opened on 22nd of June, 1873. The first Baptism was George William Gray, a present member of the congregation and son of one of the contractors.

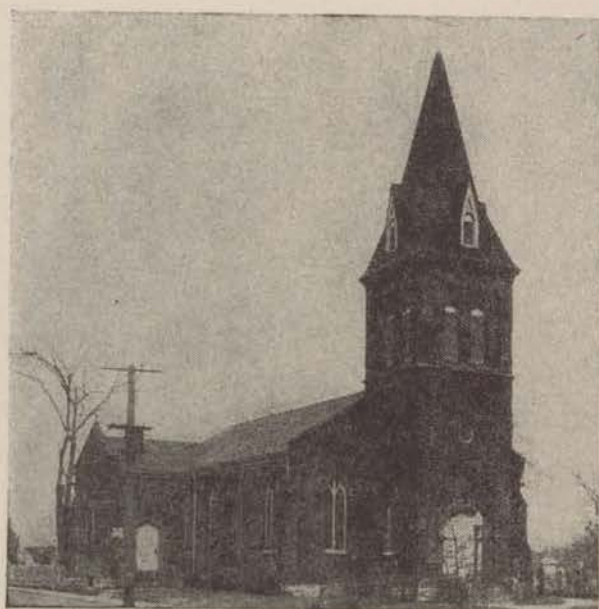


St. John's Church, 1873.



Few changes were made in the construction of the building apart from improvements in the heating and lighting systems until 1919. At that time, a Choir Vestry and Sanctuary were added as a memorial to the late Rev. D. H. Hind who was Rector of St. John's from 1887 until January 1916.

The East window, so rich in its colouring and so full of symbolism, was contributed by the Teachers and Sunday School Children of 1872-3.

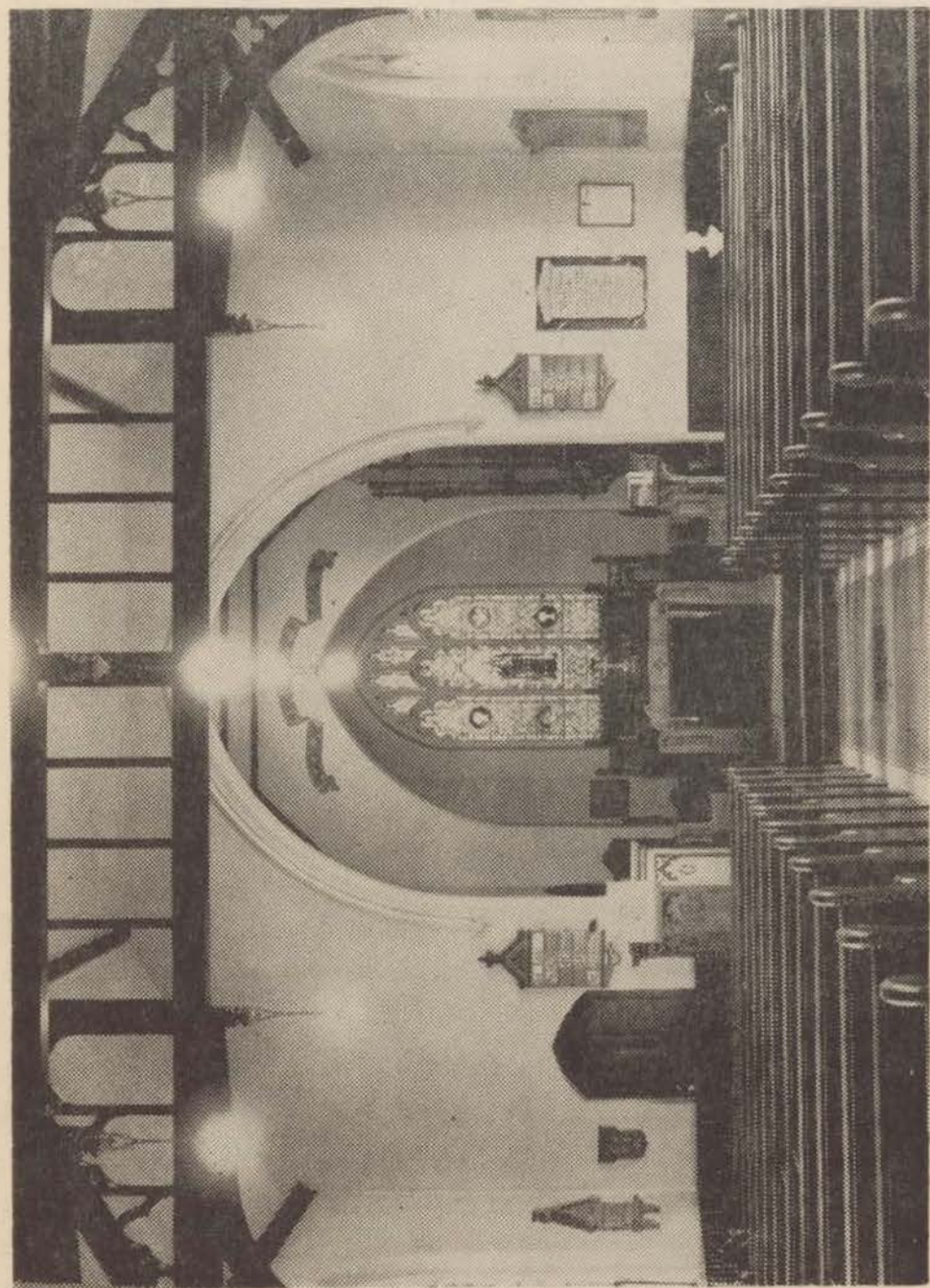


St. John's Church, 1919, Brock and Sandwich Streets.

There is one memorial window on the south side of the Church to the memory of John Baptiste Gauthier who was born in 1822 and died in 1900.

The pipe-organ in the Church was installed at the time of the Centenary in 1902 by the congregation as a memorial to the life and work of Richard Pollard.

We are frequently asked how old the Church is. This is best answered by the above record. However, the parish records date back to 1802. Therefore, St. John's is the oldest Parish, but Christ Church, Amherstburg, still uses its building opened in 1819.



Interior of St. John's Church, 1951.



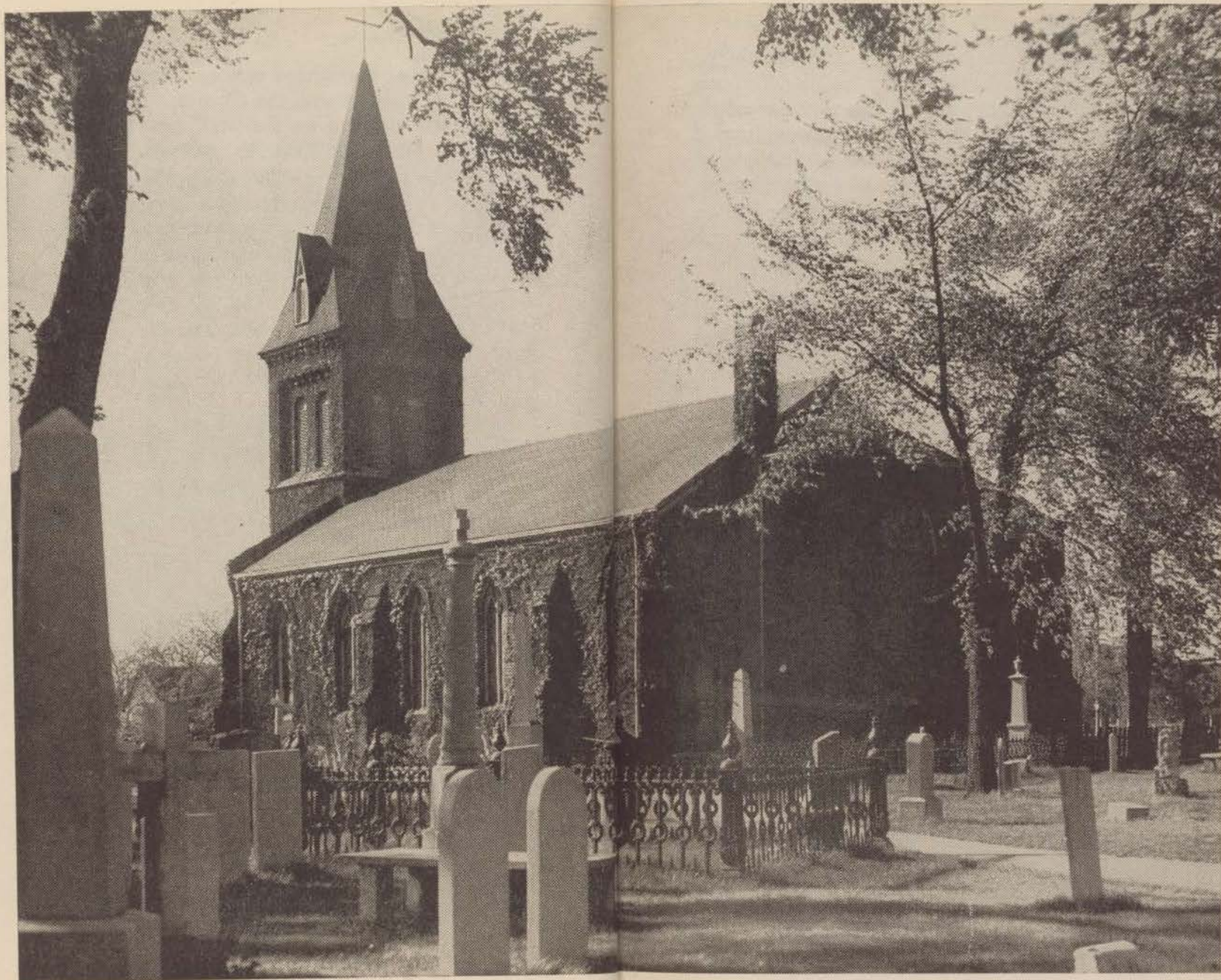
## The Church House

For many years there was no place suitable for activities in connection with the Church. In 1906, a building, 50' x 30' was erected on the northwest corner of what is known now as Brock Street, formerly Huron St. and Sandwich St. In 1938, an addition 25' x 40', was built making ample room for a kitchen, committee room, stage, two washrooms, a hallway, a basement, and provision for an apartment to be completed in due time in the upstairs. It is interesting to know that this addition in 1938 only cost the Church \$6,800.00. This building is erected on the acre of ground owned by the Church on the northwest corner of Brock and Sandwich Street which was given to it by the British Government to compensate for the loss of the Church in 1813.



St. John's Church House.



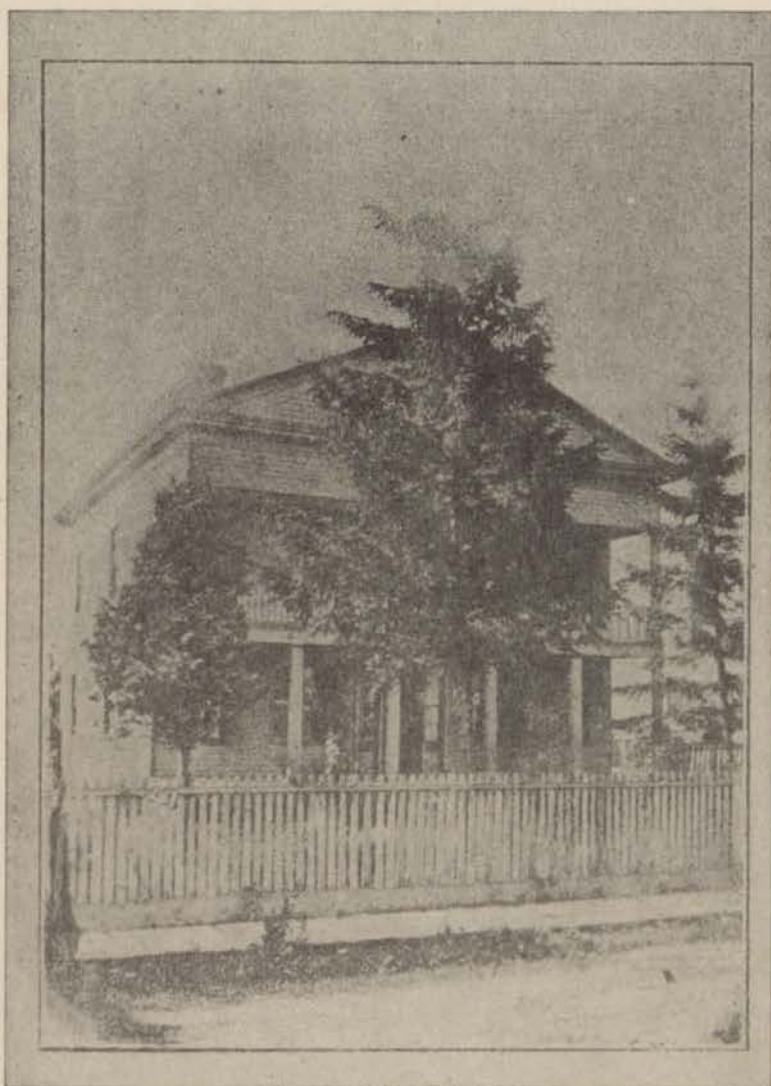


St. John Church, 1952.



## The Rectory

Until 1841, there was no residence belonging to the Church for the clergyman. In that year, the Rev. Thomas Earl Welby was appointed incumbent. He was a wealthy English Army officer, and he bought on the river front a house and twelve acres of land where the streets of Partington and Rankin now are. When he left in 1843, he bequeathed the rectory and property to the then Bishop of Toronto for the benefit of the Rector of St. John's Church,



St. John's Rectory, 1842, on Detroit River Front presented to the Church by the Reverend Thomas Earl Welby.

Sandwich, and him only. When the Diocese of Huron was established, this trust was transferred by the Bishop of Toronto to the Bishop of Huron.

When the first street railway was constructed, it had to pass through this property, but instead of taking a cash remuneration for the purchase, a stipulation was laid down and agreement entered into, that the Rector of St. John's should at all times and for all time travel free on the railway.

About 1912, this property was sold for about \$14,500.00. \$6,600 of that amount was used to build the present rectory on church property on Sandwich Street West. The remainder of \$7,789.00 is the capital endowment.



Present Rectory, built in 1914, 3288 Sandwich Street West.



## CHAPTER 4

### Memorial Tablets

AS ONE enters the tower by the west door, one is struck with the large number of names on the Honour Roll of World War Two. On this Honour Roll, the names of 58 young men who joined the Army, 41 with the Navy, 45 with the AirForce; and of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Army there are 5 names listed with the C.W.A.C., 5 with the Navy, 4 with the Air Force and 2 with the American Medical Corp, making a total of 160. The majority of these young men and young women were regular communicants in the Church. Of this list 10 made the supreme sacrifice; namely, Pte. Clayton Kenneth Collison, P.O. Harold Leslie Cook, Sgt. George Layton Fiddler, Pte. Frank George Knowles, A.S. Arthur Douglas Lane, Capt. Lloyd Russell Smith, Sqdn. Ldr. Charles Woodward Smith, L.S. James Ernest Silk, Fl. Sgt. Sidney Archie Turner, and F.O. Gordon George Welch.

On entering the Church by the west door, we begin our perambulation on the right and take a short look at the tablets beginning at the west end of the south wall. The first of which is one containing a list of the names of the Rectors of St. John's and the years of their ministry.

#### RECTORS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, SANDWICH

Rev. Richard Pollard	1802 - 1824
Rev. Robert Short	1825 - 1827
Rev. Edward J. Boswell	1827 - 1829
Rev. William Johnson	1829 - 1840
Rev. Thomas Earl Welby	1841 - 1843
Rev. William Ritchie	1843 - 1852
Rev. Edward H. Dewar	1852 - 1859
Rev. John Hurst	1860 - 1863
Rev. Francis Gore Elliott	1863 - 1879
Rev. Richard W. Johnstone	1879 - 1887
Rev. Duncan Henry Hind	1887 - 1916
The Ven. Archdeacon H. P. Westgate, D.D.	1916 -

## Memorial Tablets—(cont'd)

Presented to St. John's Church, Sandwich, by  
Bernard G. Sparks, on the 21st of January, 1951,  
To the Glory of God

and

In Loving Memory of his Parents  
Louise Sparks, who died 9th of April, 1928, aged 62 years  
George Sparks, who died 18th of Jan. 1934, aged 78 years.

In Memory  
of the Late

Honorable Alexander Grant,

Born in 1734, Died May 13, 1813.

Commodore Grant was the 4th son of the  
7th Laird of Glenmoriston, Invernesshire,  
Scotland

He was a member of the first Government  
of Upper Canada, an Executive and Legislative  
Councillor; County Lieutenant in Essex  
and Suffolk, and Administrator of the Province in  
1805-06

He was 53 years in command of the Lakes and  
57 in his Sovereign's Service

This tablet is erected by his grandson R. S. Woods

Also to James Woods, Sr. Barrister,

Born in St. John's Quebec, 1778, Died June, 1828

James Woods, Jr. Barrister,

Born in Sandwich 1806, Died 1832

Alexander	Born 1810	Died 1826
-----------	-----------	-----------

Mary	Born 1814	Died 1836
------	-----------	-----------

All interred in the Graveyard of This Church



The life of Commodore Alexander Grant, whose mortal remains were buried in St. John's Churchyard, is a very fascinating story to read. He was born in Scotland 20th of May, 1734, his earlier life and training being with the Navy and later with the Army. He had an active part with the Navy in command of a sloop of sixteen guns on Lake Champlain in 1759. From that time on he was in command of a ship or ships on the Great Lakes. In 1777, he was in command of all the King's vessels upon Lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron and Michigan. He married Therese Barthe in 1774. He was 40 years of age, Scotch, and Non-Roman Catholic; she was 16, French and Roman Catholic. There is a tradition that she could not speak English nor he French; nevertheless, their marriage was a very happy union. Of the eleven daughters born to them, one died in infancy, another one at the age of ten and the other nine grew to maturity and in due course acquired husbands and families of their own. The only son born never married. The writer of the story of St. John's at its Centenary in 1902, Judge Woods, was a grandson. Alexander Grant held many important offices in the administration of Upper Canada. For a period as the Senior member of the Executive Council, he became the administrator of the Province on the death of Lieutenant-Governor Hunter. He died on the 8th of May, 1813, and was buried the 10th of May, 1813. The cost of his funeral appears in the account of business with the estate with James Woods, one of the executors.

	£	s	d
Paid for Coffin.....	2	10	0
Paid for digging and covering the grave.....		7	6
Paid three men for going to Grosse Point in a canoe for the corpse, etc., 5/- each.....		15	0
Carriages for self and men.....		5	0
2½ yds. superfine black cloth to cover the coffin 60/- .....	7	10	0
5½ yds. Irish linen 7/6.....	2	1	3
3 yds. fine white cotton 6/3.....		18	9
11 yds. white cotton 3/9.....	2	1	3

To The Memory  
of  
Anne Eliza Young  
Late of Malin Hall, Donegal, Ireland  
Sister of Lieut. Col. Brooke Young,  
Commanding 2d Battalion Inc. Militia  
Who Died at Sandwich  
October 23rd  
A.D. 1841

Her life was eminently distinguished  
For Christian Piety, active Benevolence,  
And an amiable and gentle Demeanour,  
Which endeared her to many Friends,  
By whom this Tablet is erected, as a  
Memorial to Departed Worth.

In Memory of  
George Jessop  
Reeve of Sandwich  
Born at Aylesbury  
Co. of Buckingham  
England  
March 25, 1821  
Died August 25, 1898  
He was a member of this  
Church for 63 Years  
The Memory of the Just is Blessed  
Prov. X-7

To  
The Memory of  
The Rev. William Johnson, M.A.  
Rector of Sandwich  
Who Died  
On the 5th Day of September, 1840  
Aged 46 Years

This Tablet is a Record of the  
Affectionate Esteem of Many of His  
Friends and Parishioners  
The Memory of the Just is Blessed  
Prov. Chapt 10, Vs. 7.



To The Memory of  
Colonel the Honorable  
John Prince, M. L. C.  
and Mrs. Prince  
William Stratton Prince  
Capt. 71 Highland Lt. Infantry  
Albert Prince, M. P. P.  
Charles Prince  
Arabella D. Prince  
Henry Prince  
Septimus Prince  
Octavius Prince  
The Park Farm  
1833-1907  
Erected by  
Charlotte, Widow of  
Capt. Wm. S. Prince, 1913

Judge R. S. Woods in his book, "Harrison Hall", refers to Colonel John Prince in the following words: "His advent in the Western District marked an Epoch in its history. He came to Sandwich in August, 1833, with his wife, family and servants and was the first man of fortune to be settled in the district. In the General Election of 1836, he was returned for Essex to the Legislature upon which his impression was most favorable." During the Rebellion of 1837 and 1838, he was in command of the militia in Upper Canada. His reply to the British Government, who asked for an explanation, why four soldiers who had taken a part in the murder of his medical officer, John James Hume, were shot without a trial, was one of the most famous replies of any Army Commander to his government: "I ordered them to be shot at daybreak and they were shot accordingly." In 1856, he was elected a member of the Legislative Council and retained that position until his appointment to the Judgeship of the district of Algoma in 1860, where he continuously lived until his death in 1870 and was buried on a small island just off

the shore of Sault Ste. Marie. This island is now part of a park in the city. However, the other members of the family are all buried in St. John's Churchyard.

To The Glory of God  
And in Memory of  
Rev. Duncan Henry Hind, B.A.  
Rector of St. John's Church, Sandwich  
1887-1916

Who departed this life  
the 28th Day of January, 1916  
at the age of 62 years

This tablet is a record of his  
faithful ministry and of the  
Affectionate esteem of many of his  
friends and parishioners

At Rest

The above bronze tablet is in the sanctuary

The Reverend  
Richard Pollard  
Rector of Sandwich  
Departed this life  
on the 6th Day of November, A.D. 1824  
AEt. 76

Letter from P. Fagan to Wm. Hands

Niagara, August 25th, 1825.

Mr. Wm. Hands

Sir:

By your direction with Plan & Specification I have finished the Tomb Stone which you ordered and put it in a case safely & according to your request I send a bill of the same.

14 Dollars for stone.....	3	10	0
89 Letters at 1£ per 100.....		17	9
Case .....		5	0
Teaming to Queenston.....		6	3
		<hr/>	
Currency .....	£4	19	0



This account is believed to refer to the Richard Pollard tablet. Other correspondence verifies this statement.

It is the writer's belief that this stone was originally over the grave under the East Window of the Church. When the changes took place in 1872 it was placed in the Chancel Arch. In 1919 it was moved to the Sanctuary Arch. According to official correspondence with the S.P.G. his correct age was 72 at time of death.

#### Sunday School War Memorial

Pte. G. R. Lemmon  
Piper J. Laidlaw  
Sergt. Ed. Sullivan  
Corp. E. B. Sparks

World War 1

Amy Dewar  
O B I I T June 20, 1858  
Aet 48

My Flesh Also Shall Rest  
In Hope

In Loving  
Remembrance of  
Louisa T. Mercer  
Who Died in Church  
During the Service  
On the Morning of  
The 20th of December, 1891

This Tablet erected  
By Her Sister  
Christina J. Baby

Blessed are the dead  
Who die in the Lord.

In The  
Burial Ground of this Church  
Are Deposited  
The Remains of  
Hester Loftie Sparke  
Beloved Wife of  
Bt. Major John Fred K. Sparke 2d Battn Id Ma  
and Eldest daughter of  
The Late Rev. William Johnson, M.A.  
Rector of this Parish  
She Died the 28th Day of May, 1841  
Aged 21 Years

Also of  
Mary Isabella Anne Sparke  
Infant Daughter of the Above  
Who Died on the 14th Day of October, 1840  
Aged 4 Months

This marble is erected to the memory  
of one who as a wife was gentle, tender  
affectionate; and as a Christian,  
faithful, lowly, and resigned; by the  
parents of her bereaved husband  
John and Mary Sparke  
of  
Woolwich, England  
1842

To the Glory of God  
And in Loving Memory of  
Thomas McKee  
Who Died  
July 31, 1902  
Aged 76 Years

And His Wife  
Isabella Johnson McKee  
Daughter of Rev. Johnson  
Who Died  
October 30, 1856  
Aged 34 Years

This tablet is erected by their  
loving son  
William Johnson McKee



## CHAPTER 5

### GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

A COMMUNION Service with large Paten, Chalice, and Flagon presented by the Rev. Frances Gore Elliott, in 1871.

Paten and Chalice presented by Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Wesling in memory of Mrs. Wesling's brother, Herbert D. Murchison, who was killed in Italy in World War II, May 31, 1944.

A Brass Book Rest on the Communion Table presented by Mrs. Isabella Robinson Wells, also two large brass vases, Dec. 8, 1900.

Communion Service Book in memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Hendrick presented by their daughters, Mrs. Anna Marguerite Wanless, Mrs. Gertrude May Wilson and Mrs. Isabelle Mildred Bonk, Christmas, 1949.

An Altar Cross in memory of Robert Morton Campbell, who died in 1938, presented by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Campbell.

An Alms Basin in memory of Mrs. Gertrude E. Reid presented by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Sparks, her sisters, and brother in 1919.

A Brass Offertory Plate presented by Mrs. George Sparks, Easter, 1928.

A Brass Offertory Plate presented by Mrs. George Elliott, Easter, 1928.

Two Brass Vases presented by Mrs. George Straw, 1928.

A Credence Table in memory of Corp. Earl Bungey Sparkes, who lost his life in Belgium, January 24, 1919, presented by wife, parents, and sisters.

A Quarter-cut Oak Reredos presented to St. John's Church by Col. Alan C. Prince in 1943 in memory of his mother, Mary Ann Prince, and his aunt, Constance Prince.

A Quarter-cut Oak Lectern in memory of Reginald Palmer and Harrison Kilty Westgate presented by their parents, Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Westgate, in 1919.

Two Solid Oak Hymn Boards presented by Mrs. Mary Parent in memory of her mother, Martha O'Brien, who died in 1918, and her father, Michael O'Brien, who died in 1932.

Choir Stalls, Screen, and Prayer Desks in memory of Robert and Nettie Teakle presented by their daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Gumpfer in 1947.

A Quarter-cut Oak Pulpit in memory of Mrs. Marjorie Gumpfer presented by her husband, Harold D. Gumpfer, in 1947.

A Processional Cross presented by Ven. and Mrs. H. P. Westgate and Margaret in memory of Alan Palmer Westgate, who died April 12, 1941.

White hangings presented by Mr. and Mrs. John Barber, now of Toronto, in memory of Mrs. Mary Ann Moss, who died Sept. 11, 1927.

Purple Hangings in memory of his parents, William R. and Elizabeth Rowland and his sister, Margaret, presented by William R. Rowland, Advent, 1930.

Green Antependium in memory of Mrs. Charles Gunn presented by Mr. Charles Gunn.

Green Bookmarkers in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson presented by their daughters, Mrs. Elsie l'Anson and Mrs. Jane Bradie.

An antique Font, duplicated (so far as is known) only in Christ Church, Amherstburg, presented to St. John's Church by Major Sparkes, July 1842.

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Footnote:

A Cross for the Communion Table presented by Mr. George A. Wintemute in 1911 in memory of his daughter, Bertha, was stolen from St. John's Church in April, 1948, and never recovered. There were also stolen at the same time a silver-plated chalice and paten, Communion linen, and two Wilton rugs, and a brass Alms Basin. The latter was all that was recovered and it was found in the Detroit River.



## CHAPTER 6

### PARISH REGISTERS AND RECORDS

IT IS an interesting fact that the Records of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials have been preserved intact since 1802. The oldest Register has the heading:

REGISTER  
of  
MARRIAGES, CHRISTENINGS & BURIALS  
By  
the Church of England, at Sandwich,  
in the Western District, of the  
Province of  
Upper Canada

The first record is that of a Baptism on 24th of May, 1802, which reads as follows:

"Mary, daughter of Laurent Griffar (yeoman) and Essinith Giles, was born the twenty-second of May in the year one thousand eight hundred and one, and Baptized the Twenty-fourth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and two.

By me     Richard Pollard  
Curate."

Apparently the child was seriously ill for the second record is an account of her burial.

There are no entries from 17th of Feb. to 22nd of Aug., 1803 but a later record reads: Vol. 1 page 14: "William McQueen, son of Alexander and Grace McQueen, born the third day of March, one thousand Eight hundred and three and baptized on the 20th of June, the same year, by me, R. Pollard, Curate of Sandwich. Sponsors: Thos. Fraser, Wm. Fraser, Mary Fraser." N.B. "This child was christened on my voyage to Lower Canada, 1803."

There are no entries from 30th of April to 27th of Aug., 1804, but a later record reads: Vol. 1 page 16: "William

# REGISTER

Marriages, Christenings & Burials.

By  
the Church of England, at Sandwich,  
in the Western District, of the  
Province of  
Upper-Canada.

1802.

May 24<sup>th</sup>

Baptized

Mary, daughter of Laurent Griffar (yeoman) and Epinith  
Giles was born the twenty second of May in the year one thousand eight  
hundred and one, and Baptized the Twenty fourth day of May one  
thousand eight hundred and two -  
By us, a Parish, Richard Pollard (Sponsor)  
Curate

May 26<sup>th</sup>

Buried

Mary Griffar, daughter of Laurent Griffar (yeoman) and Epinith  
Giles was buried in the twenty sixth of May one thousand eight  
hundred and two - aged one year -  
By us, Richard Pollard - Minister  
Curate

June 14<sup>th</sup>

Baptized

William David, son of William Smith (Merchant) and Mary his wife  
was born the fifth day of May, A. D. one thousand eight hundred  
and one and Baptized the fourth of June one thousand eight hundred and  
two -  
By us, Richard Pollard Parents, Mr. Smith  
Curate, Sponsors, Mary Smith  
John Smith

June 17<sup>th</sup>

Baptized

Maria, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Abbott Williams was  
born the thirteenth of December one thousand eight hundred and one  
and Baptized the seventeenth of June one thousand eight hundred  
and two -  
By us, Richard Pollard Parents,  
Curate, Sponsors

June 20<sup>th</sup>

Married

John Sutherland Sinclair Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery and Mary  
Ann Allan Gamble, spinster, both of this Parish were married by  
licence on the twenty second day of June one thousand eight hundred  
and two -  
By us, Richard Pollard, Minister  
Curate, Sponsors, Mary Ann Sinclair  
John Allan Gamble  
John Allan Gamble  
John Allan Gamble

First page of first parish register.



Duff, son of Alexander and Phillis Duff, born on the thirteenth of April, A.D., one thousand Eight hundred and four and Baptized on the first day of May the same year, by me, Richard Pollard. Sponsors: William Mills, William Gilkinson, Mad'n Richardson." Note: "This child was baptized on my route to Quebec and no opportunity has offered since except the present to enter it on the register. R. Pollard, Curate."

These entries give proof of his three trips to Quebec.

An interesting record is that of the burial of Commodore Grant, which reads as follows: "Alexander Grant, late Senior officer of His Majesty's Marine Department, departed this life on the Eighth day of May, A.D. one thousand Eight hundred and thirteen and was buried at Sandwich on the 10th inst. Richard Pollard, Rector."

The registers show a long list of names of men connected with various regiments at different periods as 37th, 40th, 47th Field Artillery, Commissary Department, etc. In the year 1816, there are recorded the marriages of ten soldiers. There are many entries such as: "June 18, 1816: William Bailey, Soldier in the 37th Reg't and Eleanor Adams, both of Amherstburg in this parish were married by Banns, by me, Richard Pollard, Rector." "John McCormick and Ann Wright of Colchester in this parish were married by License on fifteenth day of February, A.D. one thousand Eight hundred and twenty. On the same day were married William Pardve and Elizabeth Lidwell, Matthew McCormick and Deborah Wright of Colchester by License." "December 28, 1822: In the prison at Sandwich, John Baptiste, a "Chippa" Indian, and Roderick, a black man, aged twenty-eight after a careful examination and instruction for several months were baptized in the presence of George Ironside, Esquire, George Rapp, Interpreter, and Abraham Undsworth, Jailor, by me, R. Pollard, Rector. John Baptiste, son of the above Indian, aged three years was baptized in presence of above persons."

April, 1823: "The Reverend Romaine Rolph, Rector of Amherstburg and Margaret Stanton, Spinster, were married by License on the twenty-second day of April, A.D. one thousand Eight hundred and twenty-three, by me, Rich'd Pollard." On 21st of Sept., 1854, we read of "James Price, of the village of Windsor, Bachelor, and Mahela Walker, of the same place, Widow, were married by Banns by me, Edward H. Dewar, Rector."

"Jemima A. Williams, aged 29 years, missionary to fugitive slaves, residence Dresden, buried January 4, 1860. Cause of death was disease of the heart. Officiating Ministers, J. Hurst and T. Hughes."

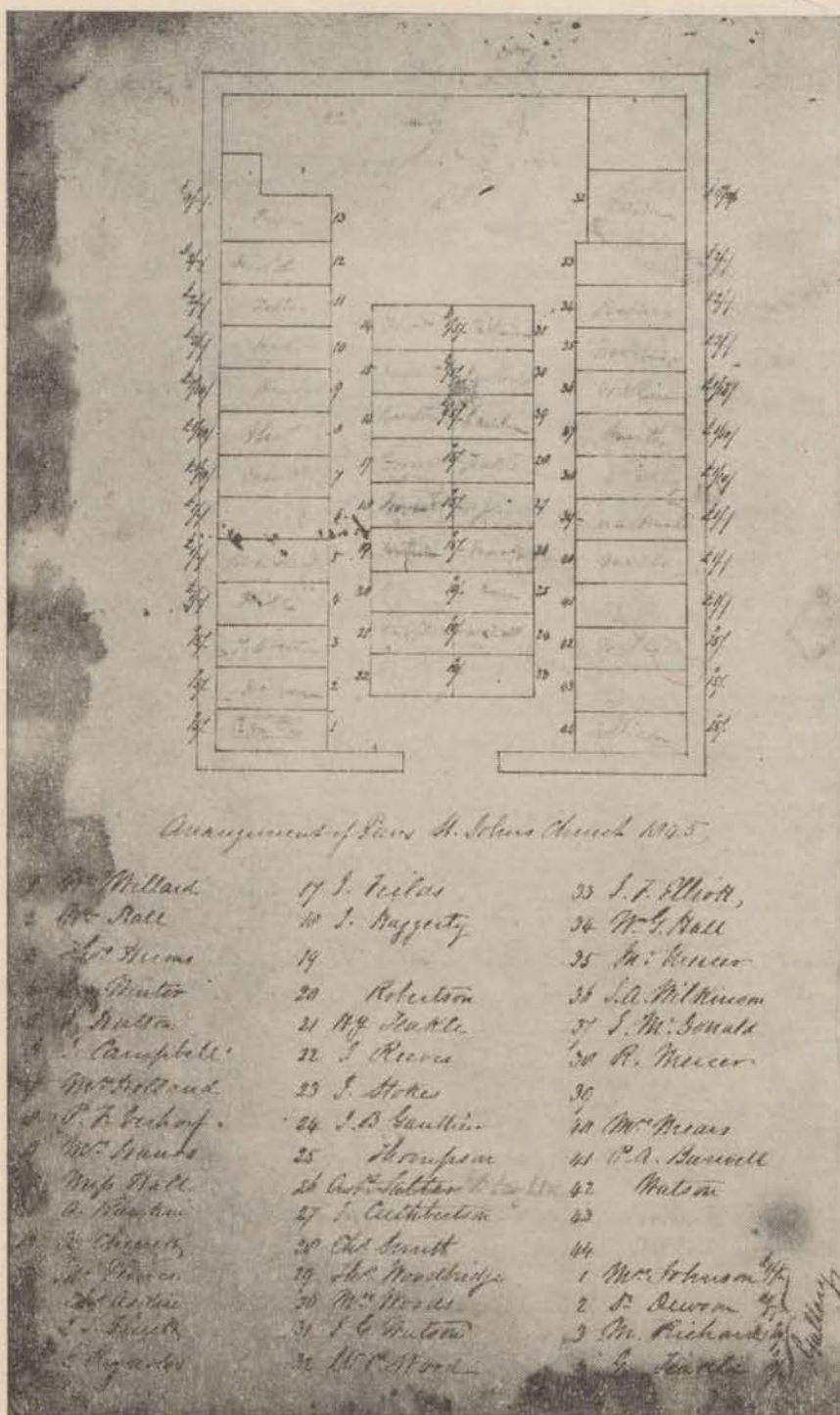
It is of interest to note that from time to time epidemics prevailed in the community as the cause of death was entered in the record of burials such as scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria and cholera. There were also a number of burials during the periods of war 1812 and 1813, Patriot's Rebellion of 1837 and later days.

Vol. 1 page 26—"Burial of Richard Donovan of Detroit, County of Wayne, merchant, departed this life, thirteenth day of November 1805, and buried 2nd of Dec. 1805, aged 28. By me, R. Pollard, Curate." Vol. 1, page 79—"Dec. 5, 1810 Baptized Mary Ann and Maddison, children of James and Sarah Abbott of Detroit."

Vol. 1 page 30—"Daniel Bancraft, Sgt. in the 47th Reg't. and Mary Holloway, both of Amherstburg in this Parish of La Assumption, were married by Banns, on the second day of November A.D., one thousand Eight hundred and six, by me, Richard Pollard, Curate."

Vol. 1 page 47—"Feb. 13, 1808 John Peck of the Township of Dover and Mary Drake of the same place were married by License on the thirteenth day of February A.D., one thousand Eight hundred and eight. By me, Richard Pollard, Curate."





Plan of seating, 1845, listing numbers of pews, rentals for each and names of pew-holders.

Vol. III page 94—"Dec. 5, 1838 Dr. Hume, Assistant Staff Surgeon was murdered on the fourth of December, 1838, by the Brigands at Windsor and interred the next day at Sandwich, 5th of December. By me, W. Johnson, Rector."

Vol. III page 95—"Dec. 5, 1838 Mills, a coloured man was murdered by the Brigands at Windsor on the 4th of December 1838 and buried the next day by me, W. Johnson, Rector."

### **Financial Statements**

Until 1820, there is no regular record available of finances although various statements have been found among the books of the wardens of those days. However, from 1821 we have fairly complete accounts of the financial situation with a list of the pew-holders and their accounts with the wardens. The transfer from English currency of pounds, shillings and pence to the decimal system of dollars and cents was made in 1857. In the early records, it is manifest that the Church wardens were exceedingly particular in keeping their books and rendering an account to the annual meeting of every cent which was received. It is also apparent that financial trouble due to shortage of funds is nothing new in the Church's management. In the Church Warden's records and plans there are 34 pews for rent in 1841 and 44 for rent in 1845, thus verifying the statement that an addition was made to the Church in 1843.

### **Vestry Minutes**

The Vestry Minutes have been carefully recorded in one book since 1834. The only minutes prior to that date are of a meeting held on the twenty-third of March, 1807, at the Parish Church of Sandwich. The following are listed as present: Reverend R. Pollard, Curate, Robert Gowie and Jonathan Nelson, Church Wardens, Angus



McIntosh, William Hands, John McGregor, James Woods, William Elliott, Robert Innis, H. S. McKay, James Allan, Moses David.

From those minutes, we read of a variety of resolutions: "Question, is the resolve of the 21st Aug. 1806 still in force, (Seeing that the purchasors of the ground lot No. 3 have paid the rent up to the 21st Aug. next) and that the lot be sold, according to the same resolve or not.

Resolved that the purchasors do keep possession of the ground until the 21st Aug. next when the same shall be sold.

Lot No. 3 put up for sale agreeable to the resolve of the 21st of Aug. 1806 by consent of the purchasors, J. Woods and McIntosh. 1 year's rent to be paid Instantor and the same to be built on in one month or otherwise to be forfeited to the Church's benefit and to be resold by the Church Wardens, it is understood that the annual rent commences on the 21st of Aug. Adjudged to: Wm. Elliott and Robt. Gowie. NYC £3, 10s, 6d.

Lot No. 11 put up for sale on the same condition as lot No. 3 reserving the right (to Field) to remove the pew to lot No. 13 or to the purchasor to build a similar pew on lot No. 13 if the said Field should require it in one month from this date. To Angus McIntosh..... NYC 56/

Resolved that the Churchwardens do wait on Mr. Selby for information on the subject of a legacy said to be left by P. Shank to the Churchwardens for certain charitable purposes in the said Shank will contained.

Resolved that Nancy Hall be allowed two dollars per month for one year from this day to sweep and clean out the Church once a week, to wash and scrub the same four times a year, to wit before Christmas, Easter, Whit-Sunday, Michaelmas and to light fires on Sundays and holidays, when thereunto required.

Robert Gowie  
Jonathan Nelson—Church Wardens."

The Title Page of the present minute book reads:

COMMENCING 1834

CHARLES ELIOT

JOHN PRINCE

Churchwardens

Record

of the Proceedings of Public Vestries  
held in The Episcopal Church  
of Sandwich in Upper Canada

Excerpts from the Minute Book of 1834:

16th Sept. 1852: "That a committee be appointed to carry into effect the objects of a subscription recently entered into by the members in St. John's Church, Sandwich, viz: To build a tower and steeple at the West end of the Church, to procure a new Bell and to superintend any repairs they may deem expedient."

Oct. 23, 1852—Resolved as follows: "That the services be held in St. John's Church in the morning and evening and at Windsor in the afternoon of every Sunday."

"That the Churchwardens be requested to go to Detroit and make arrangements for recasting the Bell of the Church or for purchasing a new one."

8th Nov. 1859: Moved and seconded: "That in the opinion of this meeting the Rev. Mr. Hurst would be a desirable and fit person to be appointed Rector of this Parish if he could be appointed with the consent of the Missionary Society by whom he is at present employed and retain a sufficient portion of the salary he now receives not less than one hundred pounds and that he be requested to make application with this view and under this condition to the Bishop and the Society for the appointment."

Moved in amendment: "that the Rev. F. Gore Elliott be requested to apply to the Bishop for the appointment."

Moved in amendment to the amendment "that the Bishop's offer to the Rev. Mr. Johnson to take the parish be accepted."



The two amendments were 'negatived' and the original motion carried.

Monday, 8th April, 1861—Moved by Mr. Woodbridge and seconded by Mr. Gauthier: "That the Churchwardens address a letter to the Mayor of the Windsor Town Council calling upon them to provide a burial ground for the people who die within their corporation."

## CHAPTER 7

### St. John's Churchyard

**P**ERSONS arriving from the Old Country and coming into the old town of Sandwich are made to feel that they are not altogether in a strange land when they see the churchyard surrounding the Church being used as a burial place.

In the original ground surrounding St. John's Church, there were two acres of land extending from Bedford Street (now Sandwich Street) on the west side of Peter Street along what was then known as Huron Street (now Brock Street). The eastern acre was originally used as a Potter's Field, but in the middle of the 19th century it was filled in and resurveyed. The title deeds of these two acres were given to the Right Rev. C. J. Stewart, the Bishop of Quebec, in 1834.

The oldest date on any tombstone in the churchyard is 1793 and has reference to the death of Margaret Hem-brow, native of Amsterdam, New York. This leads one to believe that this spot was used as a burying place for English-speaking people some time before the Church was built or the government offices moved from Detroit to Sandwich.

In 1896, the Church purchased from Sam Stover, one acre adjoining the original property on Peter Street. Forty feet off the west side was sold to a man named John

Hughes. Because of some opposition to the enlargement of the cemetery, no burials took place until 1919 when the present rector had been assured by the Attorney-General of Ontario, that there was no legal barrier to the use of the property for the purpose for which it had been purchased.

In 1919, a Perpetual Care Fund was established and the money invested with the Synod of Huron, which capital has now reached a total of \$25,614.60, (Oct. 21, 1952).

In 1938, W. J. Pulling left to St. John's Church \$2,000.00 to be used for beautifying the cemetery. From this fund, an iron fence was placed along Sandwich Street, and some capital used for putting in concrete walks, and also for the planting of trees and shrubs. The balance is still in trust.

Below are a few of the interesting inscriptions on tombstones in this old section:

Sacred  
To the Memory of  
John James Hume Esqre, M.D.  
Staff Assistant Surgeon  
who was inhumanly murdered and his body  
afterwards brutally mangled by a gang  
of armed ruffians from the United States  
styling themselves  
Patriots  
who committed this cowardly and shameful outrage  
on the morning of the 4th December, 1838 having  
intercepted the deceased while proceeding to render  
professional assistance to their Majesty's gallant  
Militia engaged at Windsor U. C. in repelling  
the incursions of this rebel crew more properly styled  
Pirates

Sacred to the Memory  
of Thomas Humber  
native of Langhborough  
Leicester Shire, England  
aged 50 years  
He fell on 4th of Dec., 1838  
defending his Queen and country  
and died at Windsor U. C.  
He was an affectionate and  
indulgent husband and parent  
and a respected neighbour.  
This stone is erected by  
his affectionate wife  
Elizabeth Humber.



To The Glory of God And  
Sacred to the Memory of  
Reverend Richard Pollard  
Born 1752 — Died 1824  
Sheriff of the Western District  
of Upper Canada  
1792 - 1802  
Registrar of Deeds  
Registrar and Judge of the Surrogate  
Court  
Ordained Deacon 20th March, 1802  
Ordained Priest 2nd June, 1804  
By The Right Reverend Jacob Mountain  
First Bishop of Quebec  
Incumbent of Sandwich 1802-1824  
Chaplain to the forces at Fort Malden  
Ministered to congregations and built  
churches at Amherstburg, Colchester  
and Chatham which marked the begin-  
ning of services in the Diocese of Huron.  
Held services and ministered to con-  
gregations in Detroit thus laying the  
foundation upon which was built the  
Protestant Episcopal Church in Detroit  
and the Diocese of Michigan.  
This Tablet Was Erected  
By  
Churchmen of the Diocese of  
Huron and the Diocese of Michigan  
in June, 1943

In Memory Of  
Alexander Chewett, Esq.  
Born AD 1800  
Died Aug. 22, D.D. 1872  
A learned and upright  
judge known to the few  
because of his retired life,  
known to the many because  
of his sympathetic and  
genial nature which made  
him ever ready to listen  
to counsel and to befriend.  
He was a philosopher  
and a philanthropist.

In Memory Of  
 Mary Katherine  
 Daughter of  
 The Rev. Thomas E. Welby  
 and of  
 Mary Anne, his wife  
 Obiit May 15  
 A.D. 1842  
 Aged 2 years and a month

Jemima A. Williams  
 Native of London,  
 England  
 Missionary to the  
 Fugitive Slaves  
 Who Died  
 At Dresden  
 Jan. 1860  
 Aged 29



Unveiling and dedication of the Reverend Richard Pollard Memorial Tablets, June 3, 1943, by the Bishops of Huron and Michigan. In the picture, left to right are: Reverend Canon H. P. Westgate, Reverend J. A. Davies (Bishop's Chaplain), Right Reverend Charles A. Seager (Bishop of Huron), Right Reverend Frank W. Creighton (Bishop of Michigan), Archdeacon Leonard P. Hagger (Michigan). This tablet was designed by Sheppard and Masson, architects of Windsor. The inscription was by Canon Westgate.



In Memory Of  
Elizabeth  
Beloved Wife Of  
John Richards  
Died  
Feb. 7, 1870  
Aged 72 Years

Here she sleeps my Lizzie,  
Lightly, lightly tread,  
Here they laid my Lizzie,  
Down among the dead.

In Memory Of  
William Hands, Esq.  
Who Died  
20 Feb., 1836  
Aged 79 Years

Mary Abbott  
Wife of  
William Hands  
Born at Detroit, Mich.  
Dec. 8, 1770  
Died at Sandwich  
Dec. 22, 1860

R. I. P.  
Henry Banwell  
Priest  
66 Yrs.  
Died  
Dec. 4, 1890

Space does not permit the printing of the names of those whose family plots are in St. John's Churchyard. As it was the only Protestant burial place up to 1860 on the Canadian side, the majority of the old and influential families of Sandwich, Windsor, and some from Detroit have their plots here.

## CHAPTER 8

### CAPITAL TRUST FUNDS

#### Nelson Endowment Trust

FROM time to time, former members of St. John's Congregation have left or bequeathed in their wills, money or assets to St. John's Church. Of the gifts prior to 1916, the writer can find no particular record. However, in 1916, Miss Francis Nelson of Windsor left a house and lot on Peter Street to St. John's Church with the proviso that the income from this property be used, first, for the care of the Nelson-Wilkinson lot in the Churchyard, and secondly, the rector and wardens could use the balance for any purpose felt necessary in the Church. This property was sold for \$1,750.00. The money was invested in the Synod, and the interest is paid yearly to the Rector and Wardens.

#### St. John's Memorial Endowment Fund

In 1924, Mrs. R. B. Searle left the Church \$100.00, and in 1928 Mrs. Julia Turville, \$100.00. The accrued interest on these two amounts before being transferred to the Endowment Fund was \$28.50.

In 1929, the church received \$500.00 from the estate of Mr. James Haggart, all of which was transferred to the Endowment Fund.

In 1929, \$500.00 was received from the estate of Mrs. M. Mary Boomer, who died in 1925. Of this, \$250.00 was transferred to the Endowment Fund and the balance put into the perpetual care fund of the cemetery to care for her lot.

In 1933, Mr. Michael O'Brien left \$300.00 to St. John's Church, \$100.00 of which was transferred to the Fund.

In 1934, Mr. Arthur H. Scott left \$1,000.00 to provide for the care of the Scott lot in the Churchyard, and the balance to be used as the Board of Management saw fit. Of this \$100.00 was transferred to the Endowment Fund.



In 1938, Mr. Harold Gauthier left \$500.00 to St. John's Church. \$100.00 was paid to the Endowment Fund, and \$400.00 to the Building Fund of the Church House.

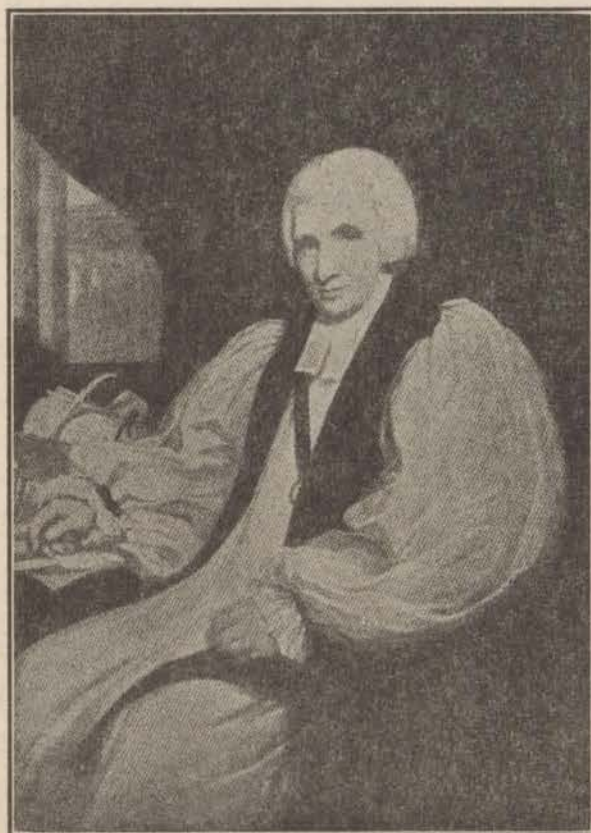
In 1942, the church received \$300.00 from the estate of Mrs. Helen Arnold, and \$100.00 was transferred to the Endowment Fund.

In 1948, Mr. Stanley Murdock left \$1,000.00 to St. John's. \$347.00 was paid to the Perpetual Care Fund of the Cemetery, and \$100.00 to the Endowment Fund.

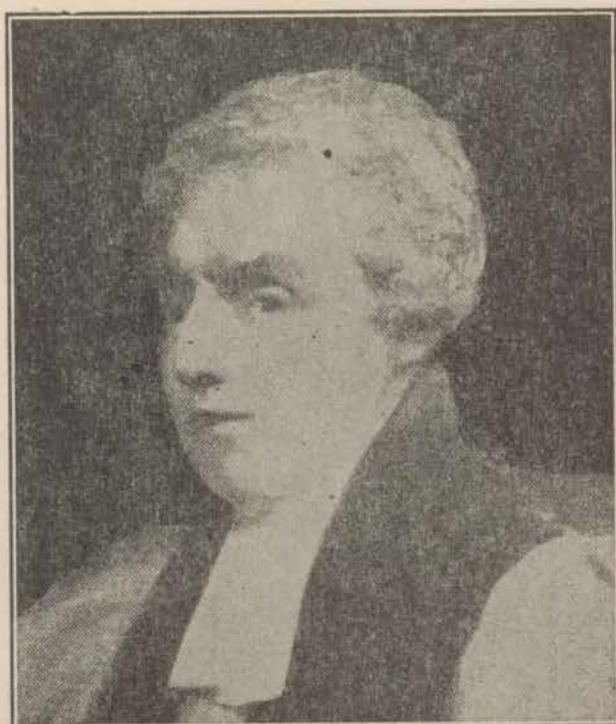
## CHAPTER 9

**D**URING the One Hundred and Fifty years of its history, St. John's has been a part of three dioceses and under ten bishops. Below are listed the Bishops and the years St. John's was under them:

Rt. Rev. Jacob Mountain, 1802-1825, Diocese of Quebec;



Rt. Rev. Charles James Stewart, 1826-1837, Diocese of Quebec;

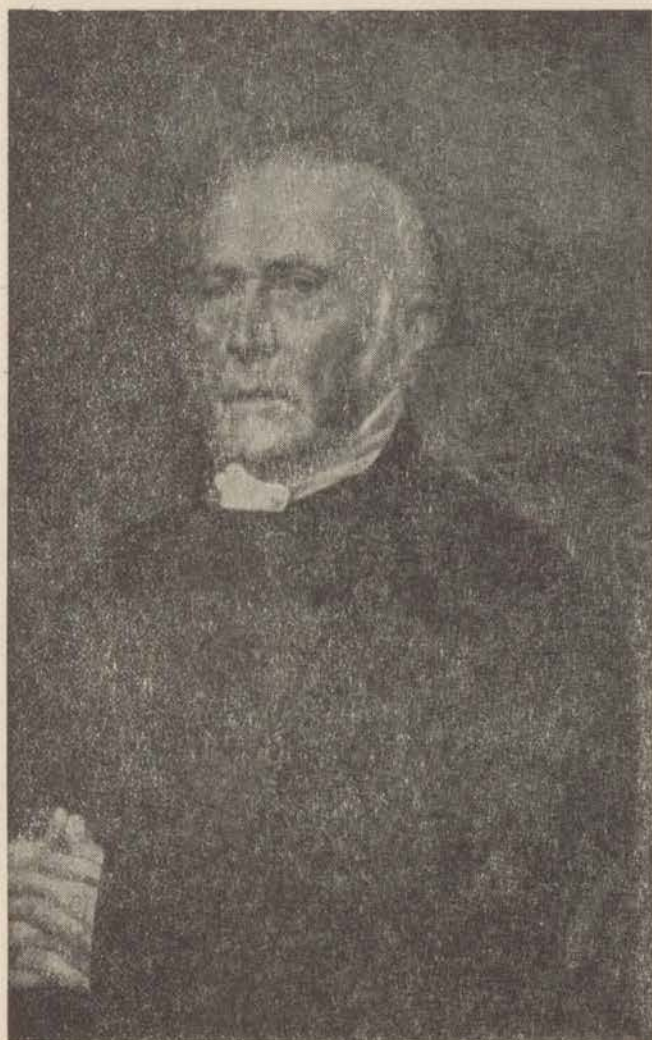


Rt. Rev. George Jehoshaphat Mountain, 1837-1839, Diocese of Quebec;

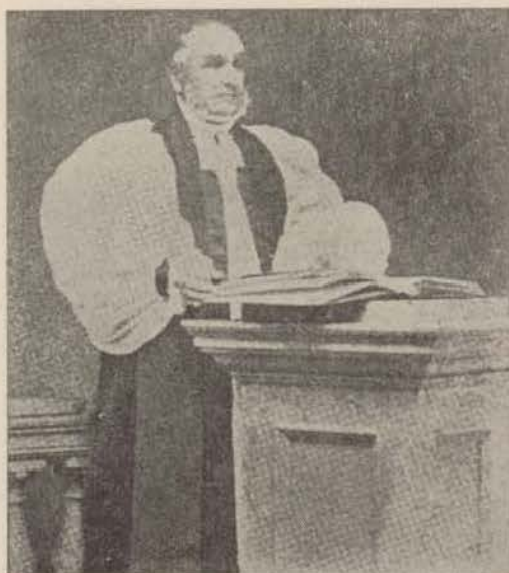




Rt. Rev. John Strachan, 1839-1857, Diocese of Toronto;



Rt. Rev. Benjamin Cronyn, 1857-1871, Diocese of Huron;

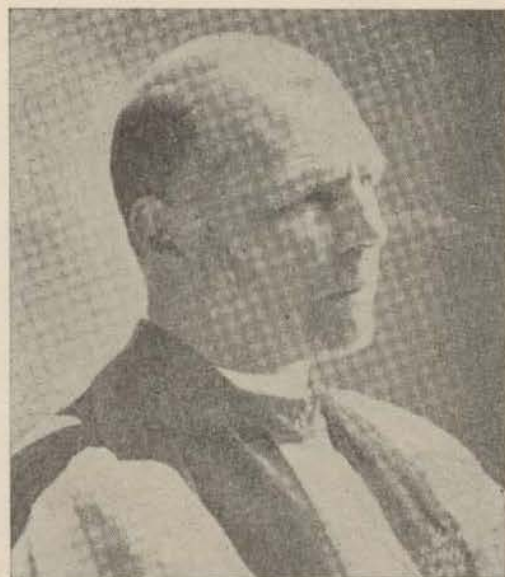


Rt. Rev. Isaac Hellmuth, 1871-1883, Diocese of Huron;





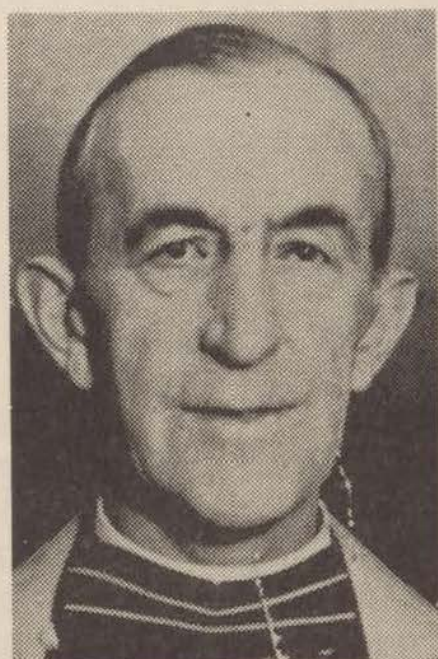
Rt. Rev. Maurice Scollard Baldwin, 1883-1904, Diocese of Huron;



Most Rev. David Williams, 1905-1931, Diocese of Huron;



Most Rev. Charles Allen Seager, 1932-1948, Diocese of  
Huron;



Rt. Rev. George Nasmith Luxton, 1948- , Diocese of  
Huron.





## CHAPTER 10

### DAUGHTER CHURCHES

#### Christ Church, Amherstburg

(formerly known as Ft. Malden)

Until 1819 services were conducted in the Council House by the Rev. R. Pollard who served as Chaplain to the militia and naval forces settled there. With the building and opening of the new brick church on Dec. 12, 1819, a separate parish was formed and the Rev. Romaine Rolph appointed the first incumbent in 1820. The original brick church with additions and improvements still remains and is the oldest brick church in the Diocese of Huron. The tablets, memorials, and stones in the Churchyard reveal the early history of the Church and its connection with the military and naval forces stationed there from time to time. The records of this parish are complete from 1829.

A mission known as Trinity Church was established in Anderdon Township to meet the needs of the country district. However with the increased prosperity of the country and the general use of the automobile, the congregation preferred to unite with Amherstburg and the Church was closed a few years ago.

The list of the clergy is as follows: Reverends Romaine Rolph, 1820-1836; Frederick Mack, 1836-1870; T. C. Des Barres, 1870-1874; William Brookman, 1874-1876; Canon Falls, 1876-1889; George W. Wye, 1889-1894; John Berry, 1895-1900; J. F. Parke, 1901-1911; A. B. Farney, 1911-1914; H. A. Wright, 1914-1946; R. W. Lane, 1946-1950; D. S. Henry, 1950- .

#### Colchester

In the records of Rev. R. Pollard who ministered to the early settlers, this community was known as "the settlement on Lake Erie". In 1821, a church built of stone

brought from Pelee Island, was completed and dedicated. In time the erosion of the lake was such that this edifice was abandoned and a new frame building erected farther north, during the incumbency of the Rev. J. Downie in 1873. In recent years steps have been taken to preserve the ruins of the original stone church by building a break-water. In 1896 services were begun in the new and growing village of Harrow by the Rev. T. F. Whealen and about the same time a church was built in Malden Township. After Mr. Pollard the following clergy have served the parish from 1842: Revs. F. G. Elliott; R. Fletcher; W. B. Moffatt; J. Downie; C. J. Green; R. W. Johnstone; E. Lewis; J. Holmes; Henry Banwell; J. W. Ashman; C. R. Matthews; T. F. Whealen; J. H. McLeod; J. Hale; W. J. Connor; W. Crarey; C. F. L. Gilbert; J. H. Smith; and R. S. Skinner. In 1951 the congregation at Harrow felt that they needed a clergyman who would be free to devote all his time to the work in this growing community and so Harrow was set apart as a separate parish and the Rev. E. L. Lake was appointed first rector and inducted May 8, 1951.

### **Christ Church, Chatham**

According to Reverend Richard Pollard's correspondence with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, he started services in what was known as "The settlement on the Thames". There were some 500 inhabitants in this locality who were without services of any kind. In his itinerary he recorded visiting this settlement, holding services and baptizing children. The community was not unfamiliar to him for as sheriff he had acted for Lieutenant Governor Simcoe in the purchase of Indian lands on the Thames and on "The Chenaille Ecarte", the modern Sny-Carty, as far back as 1792.

In a letter to the S. P. G. dated 1st of July, 1819, Mr. Pollard states, "the Church on the River Thames will be finished in the autumn." This church was described by Howison as a small wooden structure with a simple spire.



(Hamil page 187.) In another letter of 7th of January, 1822, he states, "Last autumn with the assistance of £25 from Dr. Stewart's fund, the people lathed and plastered the Church on the River Thames, and lately the Bishop has sent an additional £25 with which he proposes to erect a pulpit, reading desk, etc. and he hopes to induce the people to finish the building and erect a belfry." In a letter to the S. P. G., dated April 1824, he states he performed divine service last month at Chatham on the River Thames and that the weather and the roads were so bad that the people could not bring their children for baptism so he proposed a visit in May. In another letter, dated in 1824, he states that he visited Chatham as frequently as circumstances permitted and regretted the circumstances by which the late arrangements excluded them from the advantage of a resident minister. However, Rev. Mr. Wenham from Port Talbot would occasionally visit among them and use his best efforts to preserve them from sectarian principles. The building was a frame church, named St. Pauls, situated on Gaol Street, now Stanley Avenue, and it was burned to the ground in 1869, after being disused since 1861. (Hamil 296.) It was the predecessor of the present Christ Church, which to-day is the largest and best equipped church in the Deanery of Kent. Its list of clergy includes after Richard Pollard: Reverends Thomas Morley, 1828-1836; Thomas Brock Fuller, 1836-1840; Charles Oliver Wiggins, 1840-1841; William Henry Hobson, 1842-1846; Francis William Sandys, 1848-1894 (from 1874-1892 Dr. Sandys retired from active service but had as curates in succession: Reverends G. C. MacKenzie, J. P. Lewis, M. H. Martin, R. McCosh.) R. McCosh, 1894-1907; T. S. Boyle, 1908-1910; R. S. W. Howard, 1910-1919; Ven Archdeacon R. J. M. Perkins, 1919-1940; Ven. Archdeacon Roy D. Mess, 1940-

Christ Church was the only Church until 1843 when the Methodists built one; the Roman Catholics in 1844; the United Presbyterians in 1844; and the Church of Scot-



land in 1846; although many of their ministers had held services in the community in homes, school-houses and other buildings for many years before.

### **St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit**

No phase of work begun by the Reverend R. Pollard has had such spectacular development from such a small beginning as that of the work in Detroit, Michigan. Undoubtedly during his residence in Detroit, he had made many friends and associates; and he also realized the necessity and the advantages of the administrations of the Church in this growing and independent territory. From time to time he crossed the river in his canoe, and held services in the Indian Council House in Gladwin Park. History also records that he organized a Sunday School, baptized children, and ministered to the needs of the people. From this beginning property was purchased and a Church was built on Jefferson Boulevard near Randolph Street. This Church has been termed the cradle of the Episcopal Church in Michigan. In the Parish Registrar of St. John's, Sandwich, the first record from Detroit is that of Francis Nowland, baptized on August 27, 1804, at Detroit. Later on, there follow records of baptisms, marriages and burials during the ministry of Richard Pollard. The Protestants of Detroit were organized into what was known as The Evangelical Society in 1817. The name was changed in 1821 to that of the First Protestant Society with the Reverend A. W. Welton, an Episcopal clergyman from New York, being their first minister and who died on September 21, 1822. On November 22, 1824, St. Paul's Parish was organized with the Reverend Richard F. Cadle as minister. The next Church, Gothic in design, was erected on Woodward Avenue near Congress Street in 1827. The corner-stone was laid by the Right Reverend John H. Hobart, Bishop of the State of New York on August 10. The following Sunday afternoon, Bishop Hobart accepted an invitation from the



Bishop of Quebec (Rt. Rev. C. J. Stewart), who was then in Sandwich, to preach in the Church in that town. In 1852, this Church and property on Woodward Avenue were sold; a new site was acquired and a Church was built on the corner of Congress and Shelby Streets. This served the needs of that growing community until 1901. In 1892, property at the corner of Woodward Avenue and Hancock was acquired and a chapel built. This is the site of the present St. Paul's Cathedral which was opened about 1901. From a small beginning of services by Richard Pollard, there have developed three Episcopal dioceses in the State of Michigan. It was the privilege of the present Rector of St. John's to be present and speak at a meeting held in connection with the Centenary of the St. Paul's Cathedral in November, 1924, and also at the Centenary of the Diocese of Michigan in 1933. At the Protestant Episcopal Church service held at Belle Isle Park in connection with Detroit's 250th anniversary celebration he was asked to take the opening part of the service.

### **St. Stephen's, Sandwich South & The Redeemer, Colchester North**

In 1842, the Rev. T. E. Welby, rector of Sandwich, assisted by a prominent layman, Major Sparkes, began services in the community on the Talbot Road, known as the Irish Settlement. Later a church was built on Howard Ave. to the south of the Talbot Road. It was set apart as a separate parish about 1900 and the Rev. W. H. Hartley (afterwards Archdeacon of Perth) appointed the first rector. The Church of the Redeemer was built in Colchester North in 1901.

A new St. Stephen's was built during the incumbency of Rev. Dobson Peacock and is one of the most commodious of country churches. It is also surrounded by a well-kept churchyard. The clergy serving this parish since Rev. W. H. Hartley's time have been the Revs. T. F. Whealen,



J. R. Newell, D. Peacock, F. K. Hughes, L. C. Harrison, E. W. McKegney, Jos. Tully, and the present incumbent G. C. Dickin.

### All Saints' Church, Windsor

Services were first held in Windsor by the Rev. E. H. Dewar, rector at Sandwich in 1852 according to the minutes of St. John's Church Vestry, Oct. 23, 1852. So successful were these services that the congregation in 1855 was able to build the nave of their first church and in 1857 sufficiently strong to become a separate parish. The Rev. E. H. Dewar became the first rector, continuing until 1859. For three years the work in Sandwich and Windsor was again carried on by one clergyman, the Rev. John Hurst, who originally came to Canada as a missionary of the C. & C. C. S. to minister to the needs of the coloured population in the West. In 1863 he resigned Sandwich and devoted all his time to All Saints', Windsor. With the help of the C. & C. C. S., the transepts and chancel were added to their church in 1871 and later ground purchased for a Sunday School. All Saints' has been enlarged so that it now has a seating capacity of 900, and a well-equipped parish hall which provides accommodation for the various activities of a downtown church. Following the Rev. John Hurst the rectors have been: Rev's. Canon St. George Caulfield, D.D.; W. H. Ramsay; Canon J. P. Hincks; F. A. P. Chadwich (Victoria, B.C.); Arthur Carlisle, afterwards Bishop of Montreal; W. A. Earp, now in England; Canon P. N. Harding, later Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; Canon R. C. Brown, present Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; L. Carl Swan, now of St. George's Church, St. Catharines; and the present rector W. Gerald Burch.

To-day All Saints' ranks as the second largest parish in the Diocese of Huron. As St. John's, Sandwich, was the mother of churches in the 19th century for this district, All Saints' Windsor has been for the 20th. The Church of the Ascension, St. George's Memorial, St. Paul's and



St. Andrew's were started by her to meet the needs of the growing population in various parts of the city. From the history of St. Mary's, Walkerville, we learn that the Rev. John Hurst, rector of All Saints, held the first Anglican Church services in that community early in 1874. He was followed by the Rev. Dr. Caulfield who continued until a mission was established embracing Walkerville and the Irish Settlement under the incumbency of the Rev. A. H. Martin, May 31, 1874.

### **St. Andrew's Memorial Church, LaSalle**

At the request of two Church of England families in La Salle, the Reverend H. P. Westgate began services in the auditorium of the Colonel Bishop School (which had been recently built) on October 5, 1930, under the name of Holy Trinity Mission. From that time services were held monthly until October, 1948. In 1947 a survey of the community was made by Mr. Stanley Dodds, a student of Huron College, who reported to Archdeacon Westgate that there were in La Salle 110 Protestant families, 68 of whom were Anglican and the remainder expressed a willingness to support an Anglican church if one were built there. With the help of Synod, property was acquired on Lafferty Street. Beginning in October 1948, regular services were held every Sunday with the help of Reverend Joseph Tully and Reverend H. A. Wright, superannuated clergymen living in Amherstburg and later the Rev. J. R. C. Ding as a part-time curate. In 1949 the property on Lafferty Street was sold and the present site on George Street, between Lafferty and Gladstone, was purchased. In the autumn of 1949, a contract was let to Mr. Harold Clark for the building of a church on this site to be known as St. Andrew's Memorial, La Salle. The first sod was turned on 3rd of October, 1949, by Archdeacon Westgate and the corner-stone was laid on 12th of November, 1949, by the Rt. Rev. G. N. Luxton, D.D., Bishop of Huron. The church was officially opened and

dedicated on 30th of March, 1950, by the Bishop. Archdeacon Westgate continued in charge until the 2nd of June when the Rev. Alex. J. Newell was inducted as the first incumbent in full charge with no other congregations to minister to. Through the kindness of Christ Church congregation of Amherstburg, the furniture in Trinity Church, Anderdon Township, now closed, was given to St. Andrew's Memorial Church in La Salle.

## CHAPTER 11

### BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

#### CHURCH WARDENS

- |      |                                     |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| 1821 | George Jacob and James Little       |
| 1822 | John McGregor and Jos. Hamilton     |
| 1823 | Wm. Elliott and J. W. Little        |
| 1924 | Wm. Hands and J. W. Little          |
| 1825 | James Woods and J. W. Little        |
| 1826 | Geo. Jacob and Ch. Elliott          |
| 1827 | Geo. Jacob and Robert Wrist         |
| 1828 | Geo. Jacob and Ch. Askin            |
| 1829 | Geo. Jacob and Joseph Woods         |
| 1830 | Geo. Jacob and Ch. Askin            |
| 1831 | Geo. Jacob and James Woods          |
| 1832 | Geo. Jacob and J. L. Williams       |
| 1833 | Geo. Jacob and J. A. Wilkinson      |
| 1834 | Chas. Eliot and John Prince         |
| 1835 | Abraham Unsworth and John Prince    |
| 1836 | Abraham Unsworth and John Prince    |
| 1837 | Abraham Unsworth and J. B. Laughton |
| 1838 | Abraham Unsworth and J. B. Laughton |
| 1839 | Abraham Unsworth and J. B. Laughton |
| 1840 | Abraham Unsworth and J. B. Laughton |
| 1841 | Wm. R. Wood and L. S. Fluett        |
| 1842 | Wm. R. Wood and Thos. Woodbridge    |
| 1843 | Wm. R. Wood and Thos. Woodbridge    |
| 1844 | Wm. R. Wood and J.B. Laughton       |
| 1845 | Wm. R. Wood and A. K. Dewson        |
| 1846 | Wm. R. Wood and A. K. Dewson        |
| 1847 | Wm. R. Wood and W. P. Vidal         |



- 1848 Wm. R. Wood and W. P. Vidal  
1850 Paul J. Salter and Geo. Bullock  
1851 Paul J. Salter and Geo. Bullock  
1852 Paul J. Salter and Geo. Bullock  
1853 Paul J. Salter and Thos. Woodbridge  
1854 Paul J. Salter and Thos. Woodbridge  
1855 Paul J. Salter and Thos. Woodbridge  
1856 Thomas Woodbridge and John Adley  
1857 Thomas Woodbridge and John Adley  
1858 Thomas Woodbridge and John Adley  
1859 Paul J. Salter and John Adley  
1860 Paul J. Salter and Joseph Miller  
1861 Paul J. Salter and J. H. Wilkinson  
1862 Paul J. Salter and J. H. Wilkinson  
1863 J. Woodbridge and J. H. Wilkinson  
1864 Thomas Wright and J. H. Wilkinson  
1865 Cyrus Dobson and J. H. Wilkinson  
1866 Miles Cowan and Geo. Green  
1867 A. C. Ellis and Geo. Jessop  
1868 A. C. Ellis and J. H. Wilkinson  
1869 Gordon McWhinney and A. C. Ellis  
1870 Gordon McWhinney and A. C. Ellis  
1871 Gordon McWhinney and A. C. Ellis  
1872 Gordon McWhinney and A. C. Ellis  
1873 J. Goddard and John Wright  
1874 G. O'C. Leech and F. Marcon  
1875 G. O'C. Leech and T. Marcon  
1876 G. O'C. Leech and T. Marcon  
1877 John Spiers and Arthur Vernor  
1878 A. C. Vernor and John Spiers  
1879 T. McWhinney and C. H. Ashdown  
1880 Fred Neal and A. C. Vernor  
1881 Fred Neal and A. C. Vernor  
1882 Fred Neal and A. C. Vernor  
1883 A. H. Nelson and A. C. Vernor  
1884 A. H. Nelson and Fred Neal  
1885 A. W. Phillips and Arthur Manser  
1886 A. W. Phillips and John Spiers  
1887 A. W. Phillips and John Spiers  
1888 G. W. Mason and John Spiers  
1889 G. W. Mason and John Spiers  
1890 Jos. Leggett and G. R. M. Pentland  
1891 Jos. Leggett and G. R. M. Pentland  
1892 Fred Neal and G. R. M. Pentland  
1893 John V. Gray and G. R. M. Pentland

- 1894 N. McWhinney and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1895 N. McWhinney and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1896 David Tasker and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1897 D. T. Carlay and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1898 O. Pickard and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1899 W. H. Gray and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1900 W. H. Gray and G. R. M. Pentland
- 1901 Percy Smiley and David Tasker
- 1902-1917 William Hill and David Tasker
- 1918 W. G. Wells and David Tasker
- 1919 W. G. Wells and David Tasker
- 1920 Geo. A. Grant and David Tasker
- 1921 Geo. A. Grant and Elmer Pillion
- 1922 A. G. Hutchinson and B. G. Sparks
- 1923 A. G. Hutchinson and B. G. Sparks
- 1924 K. C. Campbell and T. J. Lofthouse
- 1925 T. J. Lofthouse and K. C. Campbell
- 1926 T. J. Lofthouse and Fred Musson
- 1927 Ed. Jessop and Fred Musson
- 1928 T. J. Lofthouse and W. D. Robinson
- 1929 T. J. Lofthouse and A. G. Hutchinson
- 1930 T. J. Lofthouse and A. G. Hutchinson
- 1931 T. J. Lofthouse and A. G. Hutchinson
- 1932 T. J. Lofthouse and M. T. Loney
- 1933 J. F. Twigg and H. J. Bradley
- 1934 A. G. Stiles and J. P. Smith
- 1935 J. P. Smith and H. J. Bradley
- 1936 F. E. Musson and H. J. Bradley
- 1937 R. B. Dobson and F. E. Musson
- 1938 R. B. Dobson and F. E. Musson
- 1939 R. B. Dobson and F. E. Musson
- 1940 R. B. Dobson and F. E. Musson
- 1941 W. J. Hobbs and L. G. Whittaker
- 1942 W. J. Hobbs and L. G. Whittaker
- 1943 W. J. Hobbs and L. G. Whittaker
- 1944 E. J. Tomkins and L. G. Whittaker
- 1945 E. J. Tomkins and L. G. Whittaker
- 1946 E. J. Tomkins and L. G. Whittaker
- 1947 W. S. Park and A. F. Wilkinson
- 1948 W. S. Park and A. C. Shepherd
- 1949 W. S. Park and A. C. Shepherd
- 1950 G. F. Bunclark and A. C. Shepherd
- 1951 G. F. Bunclark and A. F. Wilkinson
- 1952 G. F. Bunclark and A. F. Wilkinson—Jan. to June
- 1952 T. D. White and C. E. Baxter—July to December



## CHAPTER 12

### 150TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

THE FIRST of the special services in connection with the observance of the 150th anniversary was held on March 20, marking the 150th anniversary of the ordination of Richard Pollard. From the report in the Windsor Daily Star of March 21 the following excerpts from Rev. Prof. T. R. Millman's address are given. He began his story of Mr. Pollard by describing him as "leather-skinned, grizzled bachelor, familiar with Indians, trappers, soldiers, traders and homesteaders" at the time of his ordination.

Pollard was first known in Detroit and this locality as an Indian trader handling various trinkets and novelties from Montreal which were so necessary in bartering with the Indians.

"Whether it was the lack of financial success or other reason," Mr. Millman said, "Pollard soon gave up commercial pursuits and became a government employee.

"In 1792 he become the first sheriff, returning officer and postmaster of the province of Upper Canada," Mr. Millman said.

In summing up the story of the beloved founder, Mr. Millman said, "Weeds and underbrush have indeed, in the passing of 150 years, obscured the earthly path of Richard Pollard.

"We are forced as it were, to push the branches to one side to discover traces of him. Being a man of action, rather than reflection, he wrote little.

"He was not great, in any worldly sense of the term, neither was he learned or famous but in the sight of his fellow-men, he was a straight-forward, simple-minded, friendly man, not easily discouraged, faithful in discharging his duty as a layman and priest."

"He endured danger, privation, and a kind of genteel poverty not unknown to many clergy in all ages," Mr. Millman said.

"Richard Pollard was a pioneer, a layer of foundations, a builder, one who did not bury in a napkin his single talent for faithful service.

"Clergymen who are content to labor as faithfully as did the father-founder of this parish, even in obscurity and discouragement," Mr. Millman said, "need not feel surprised to hear the Divine commendation: 'Well done, good and faithful servant'."

#### FRIDAY, MAY 2

6:30 p.m.—Congregational Banquet. Speaker: Rev. G. Paul Musselman, rector of the Mariners' Church, Detroit.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 4

11:00 a.m.—The Rector.

7:00 p.m.—Rev. D. S. Henry, B.A., Amherstburg.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 11

11:00 a.m.—Very Rev. R. C. Brown, M.A., D.D., Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

7:00 p.m.—Rev. Gordon C. Dickin, B.A., R.D., St. Stephen's.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 18

11:00 a.m.—Very Rev. J. J. Weaver, M.A., D.D., Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, Detroit.

7:00 p.m.—Rev. L. Carl Swan, M.A., All Saints', Windsor.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

8:00 p.m.—International Night. Rt. Rev. R. S. Emrich, D.D., Bishop of Michigan.

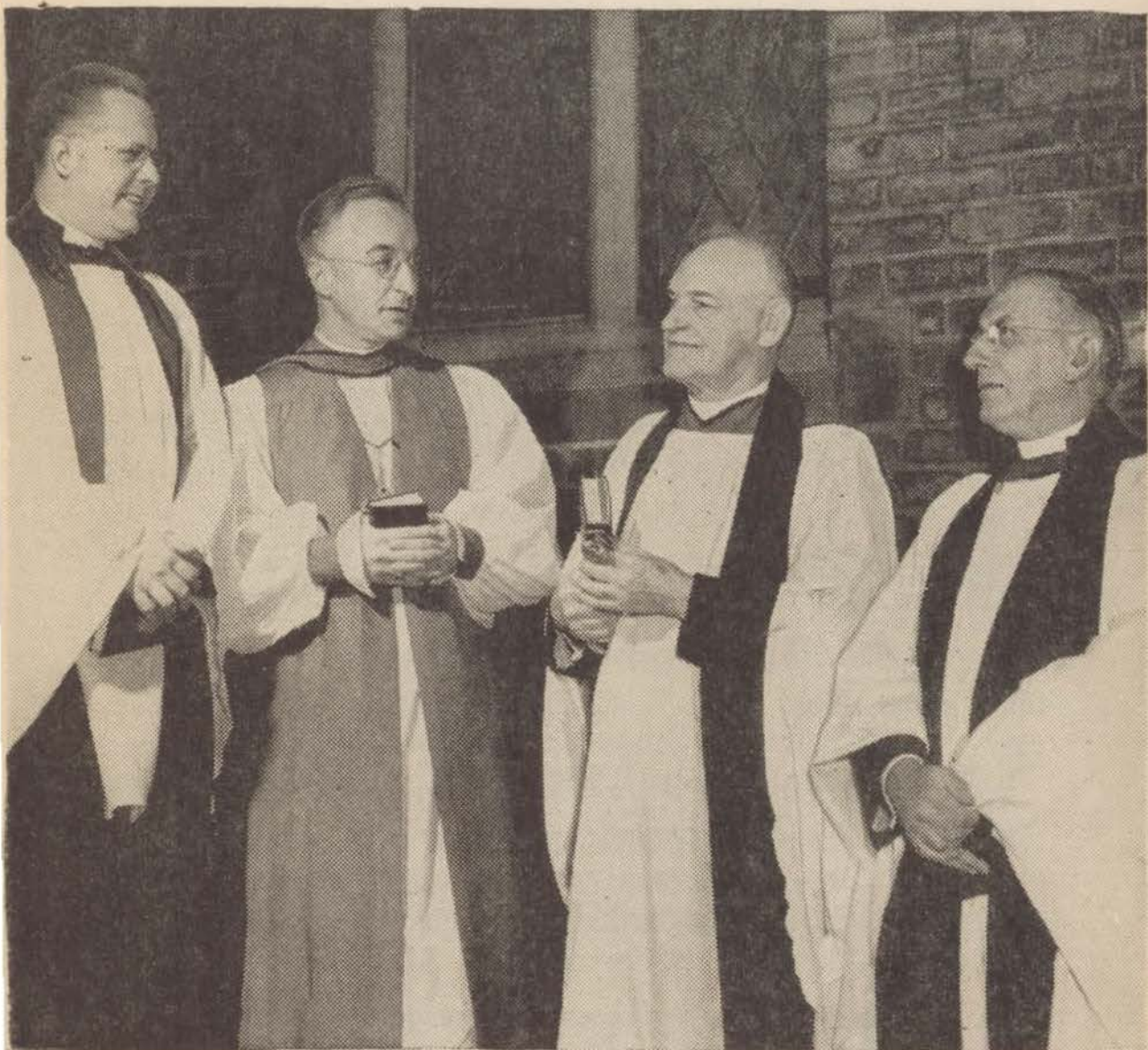
Reception in the Parish Hall after the service and the cutting of the Anniversary cake.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 25

11:00 a.m.—Rev. R. S. Skinner, L.Th., Colchester.

7:00 p.m.—Rev. A. J. Newell, B.A., La Salle.





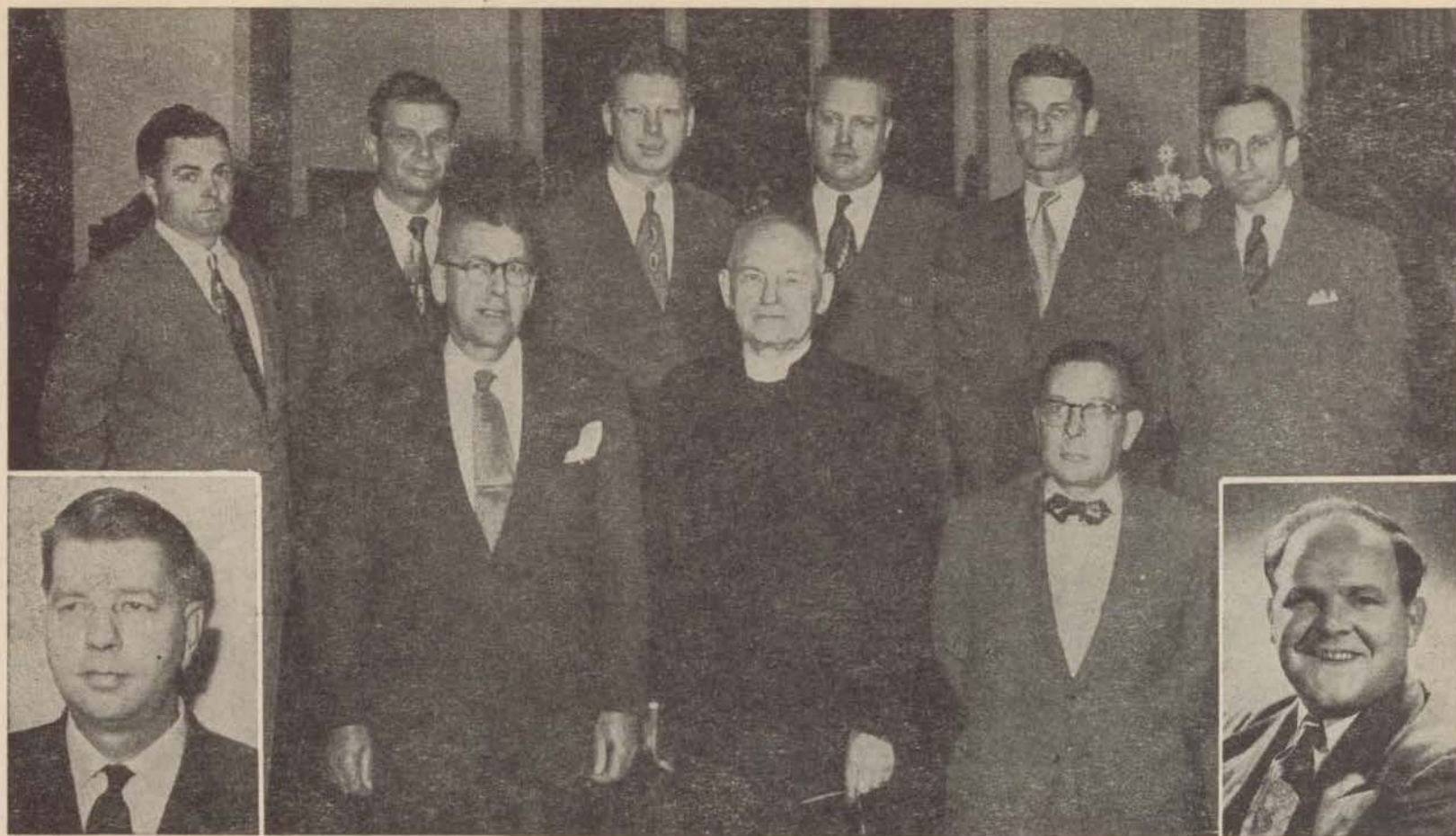
Left to right: Reverend Thomas Smith, Detroit; Right Reverend R. S. Emrich, Bishop of Michigan and special preacher at International Night Service; Archdeacon H. P. Westgate; Reverend Canon Gordon D. Matthews, Secretary of Diocese of Michigan.



Archdeacon and Mrs. H. P. Westgate cutting the anniversary cake at the reception held after the service on International Night, while Bishop and Mrs. Emrich look on.

This four-story cake was made and donated by Mr. and Mrs. Lee T. White.





The Board of Management of St. John's Church for 1952. Left to right: Front row—George F. Bunclark, rector's warden; Archdeacon H. P. Westgate; A. F. Wilkinson, people's warden; back row—A. G. Manning; Roy E. McKee; F. J. Skeggs; L. G. Whittaker, treasurer; William Bowen; Charles E. Baxter, vestry clerk. Inset: left—Don Peterson; right—Thomas D. White.

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TO-DAY

St. John's stands to-day, even after 150 years of service to Christ and the community, as one of the most important churches in the Diocese of Huron, even though her territory has been considerably reduced by the establishment of new parishes. Some 350 families with a total number of souls of 1400 are ministered to by the rector. Her actual communicant list numbers 500. Financially she has faithfully and generously supported every Diocesan project. Her budget for 1952 is \$10,000.00 including a Diocesan apportionment of \$1900.00. This does not include the upkeep of the historic cemetery which is a separate account. Below is a list of the various organizations which always have, and do play an important part in the success of the work in the Church.

Choir	Organist	Geo. F. Emslie, F.R.C.M.
Woman's Auxiliary	President	Mrs. G. H. P. Walker
Afternoon Group C. W. G.	President	Mrs. W. H. Gamble
Evening Group C. W. G.	President	Mrs. E. E. Wells
DuChat Club	President	Mrs. Thos. Rossell
Fortnightly Club	President	Mrs. J. L. Forster
Chancel Guild	President	Mrs. R. E. Douglas
Canterbury Club	President	Miss Margaret Haller
Scout Group Committee	President	Donald J. Dales
Girl Guides	Captain	Miss Dorothy Ray
Junior W. A.	Supervisor	Mrs. R. B. Innis
Little Helpers	Supervisor	Mrs. T. L. Wesling
The Server's Guild	Mentor	The Rector
Sunday School	Superintendent	Chas. E. Baxter





